TWO GREAT COMICS IN ONE!

A POWER COMIC

SMASH! AND POW!

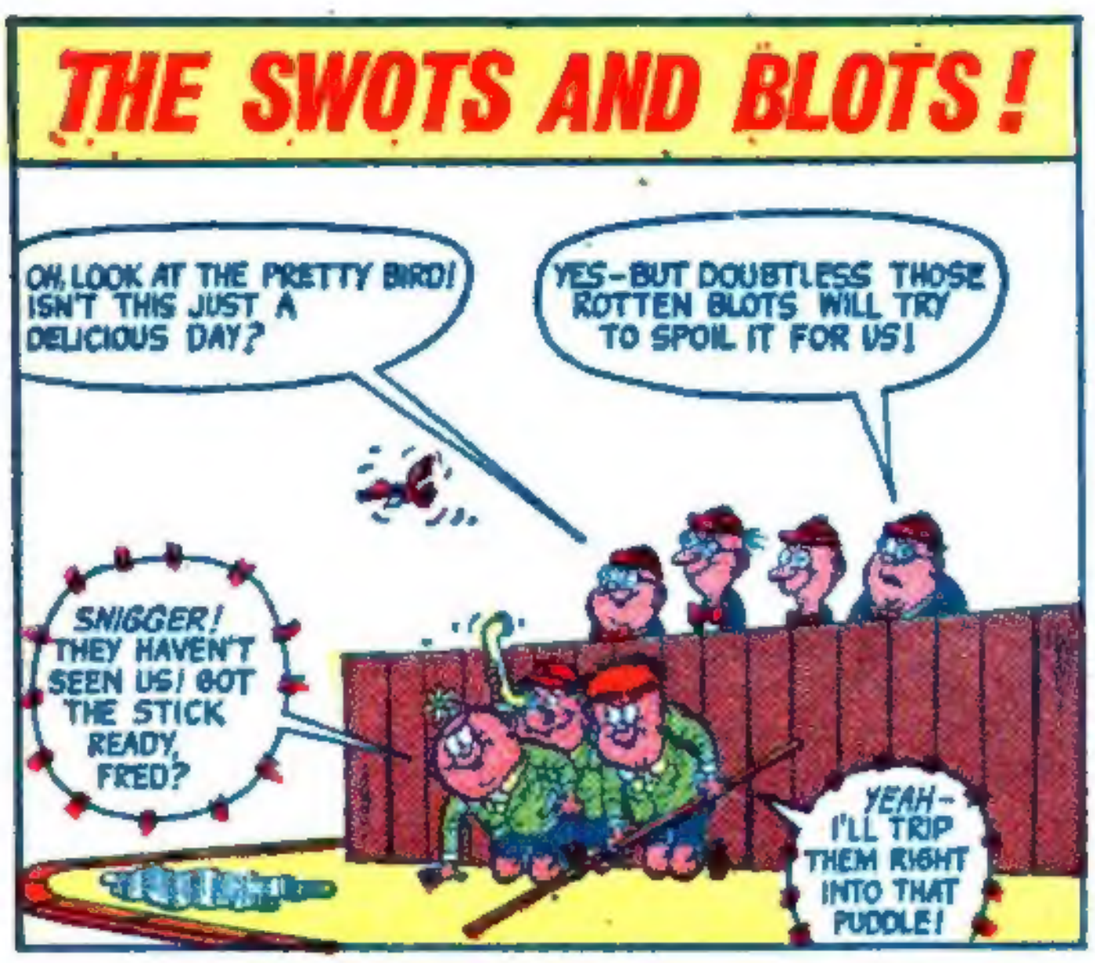
No. 137

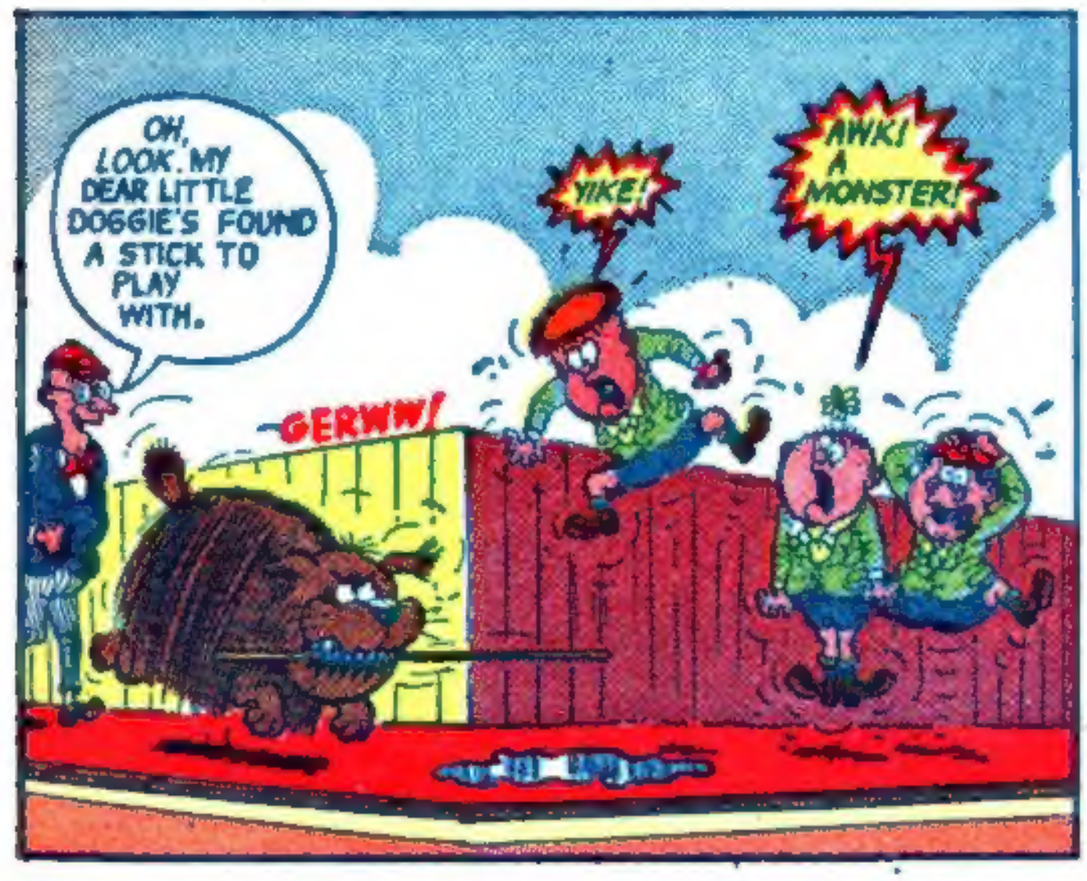
14th SEPT. 1968

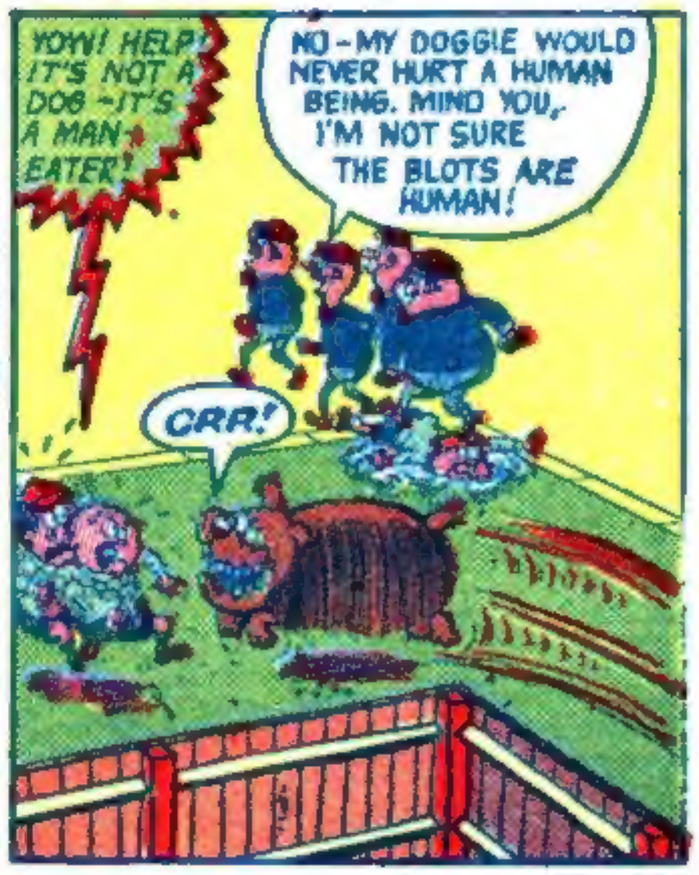
EVERY MONDAY 7d

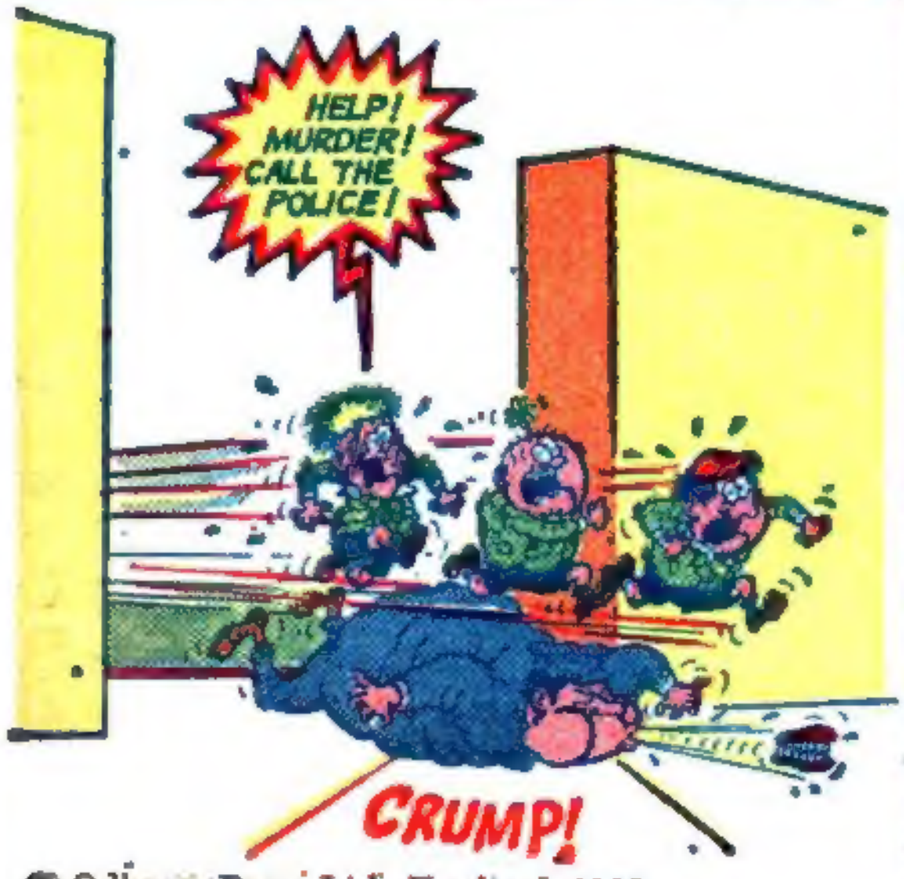
AUSTRALIA 10c. EAST AFRICA 1.00 WEST AFRICA 10d. SOUTH AFRICA 10c. RHODESIA 1/- NEW ZEALAND 1/- (10c.)

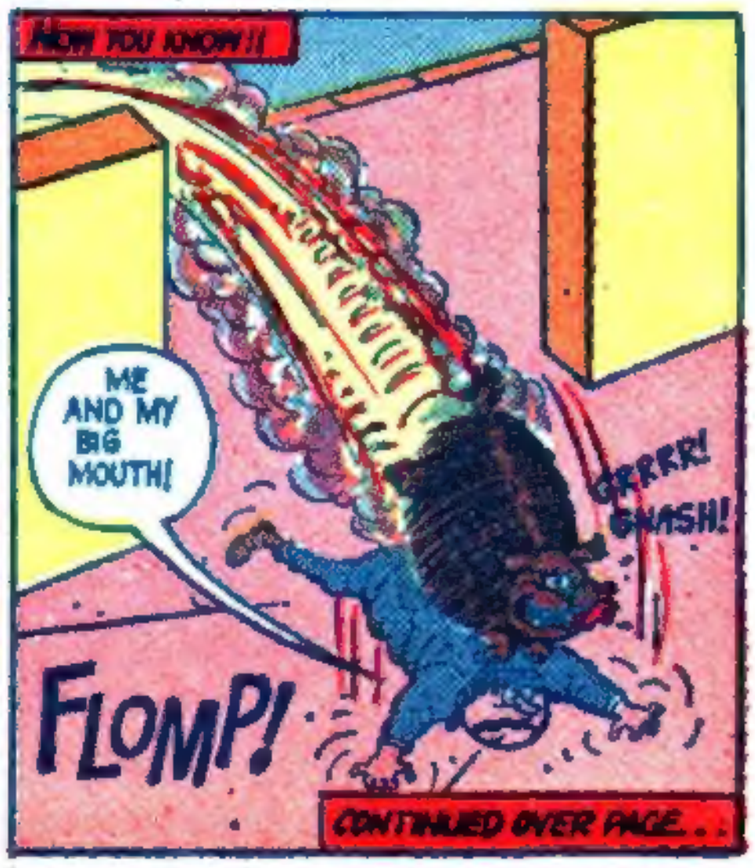
THE SWOTS AND BLOTS!











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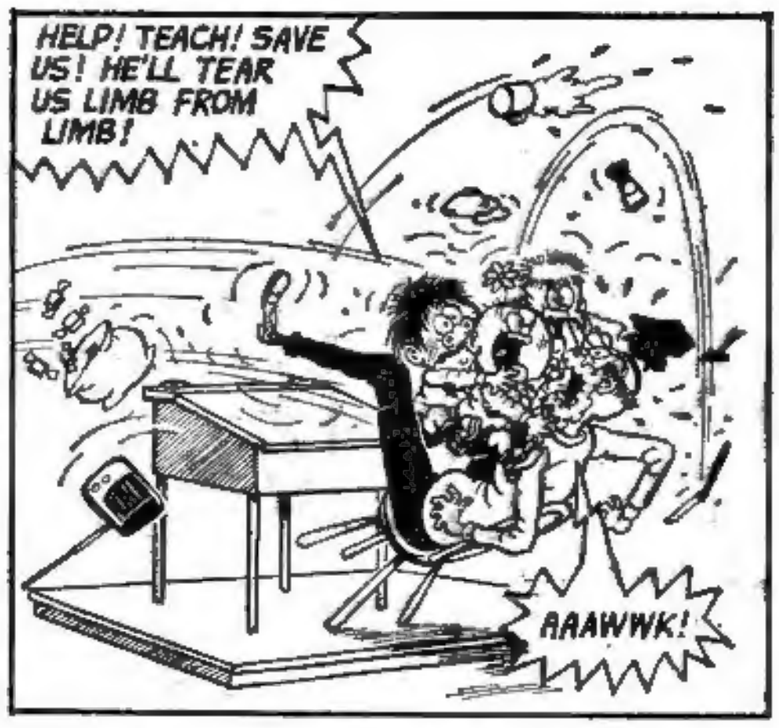
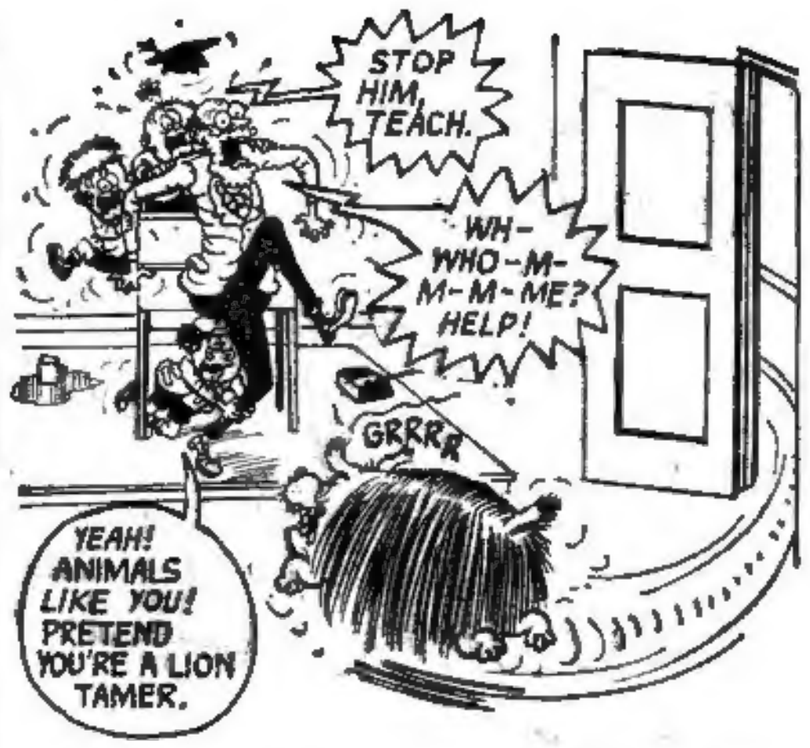
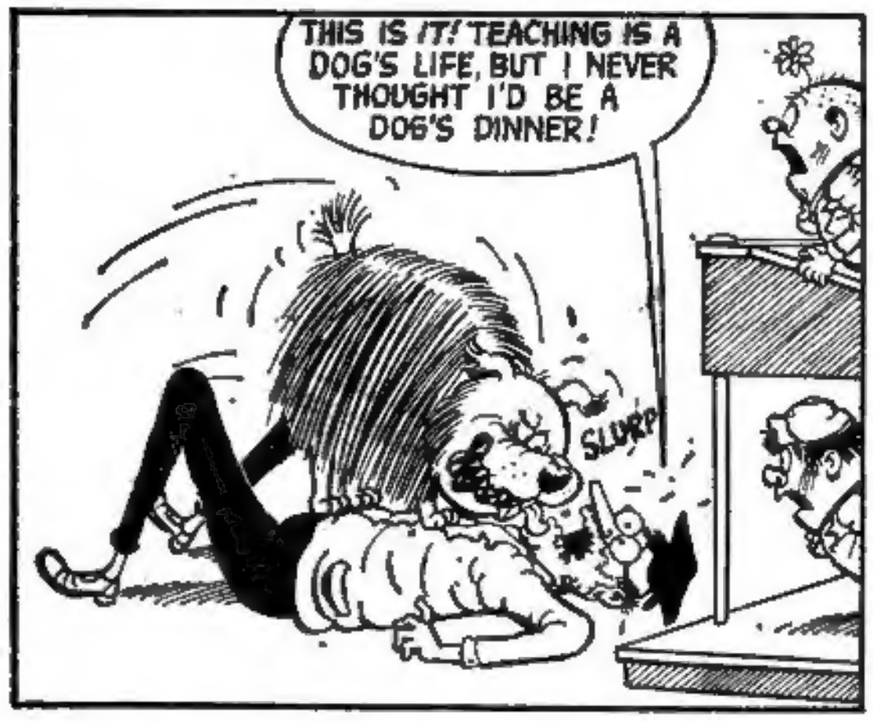
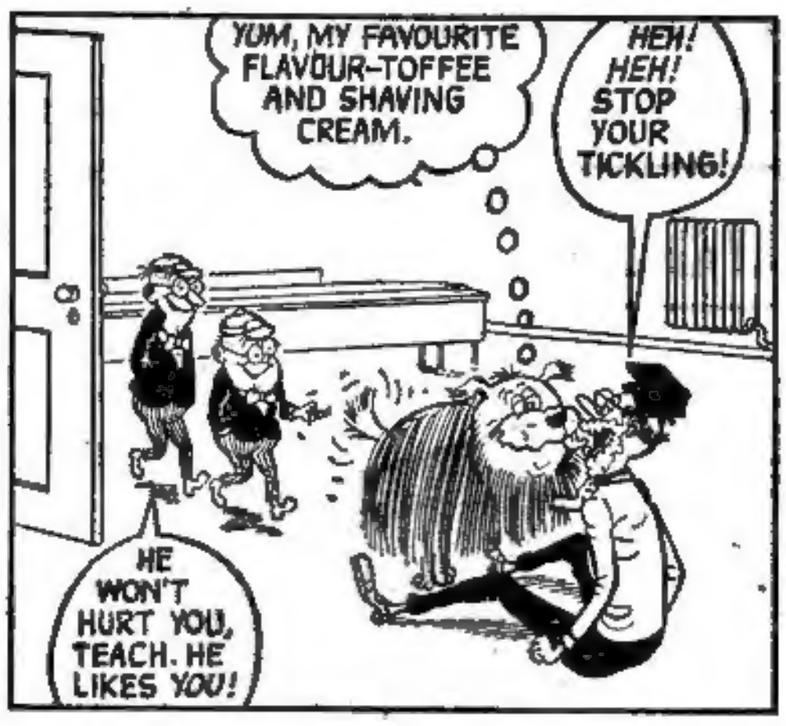
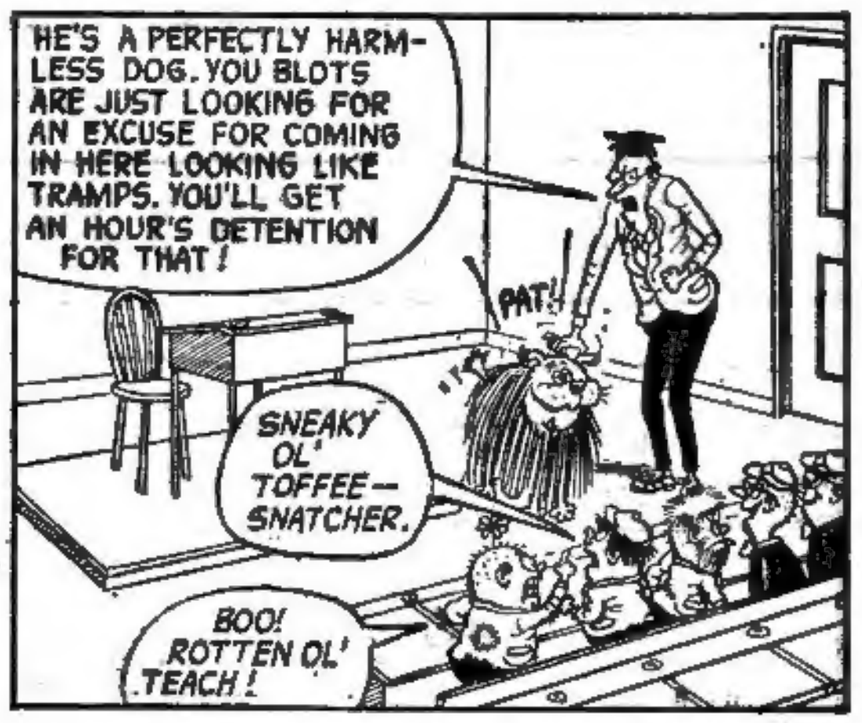
IT'S A GOOD THING THE BLOTS NEVER GET IN BEFORE NINE O'CLOCK. IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE I GET TO EAT ALL THE SWEETS I CONFISCATE FROM THEM.
HELP!
TRAMPLE
HELP!

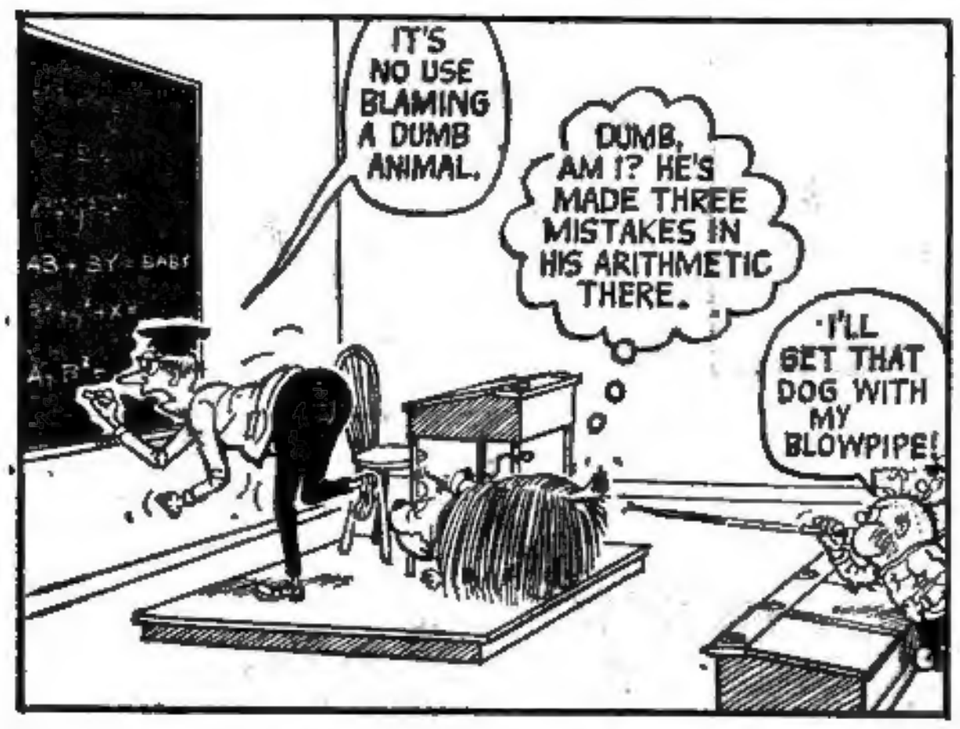

HELP! TEACH! SAVE US! HE'LL TEAR US LIMB FROM LIMB!
AAAWWK!

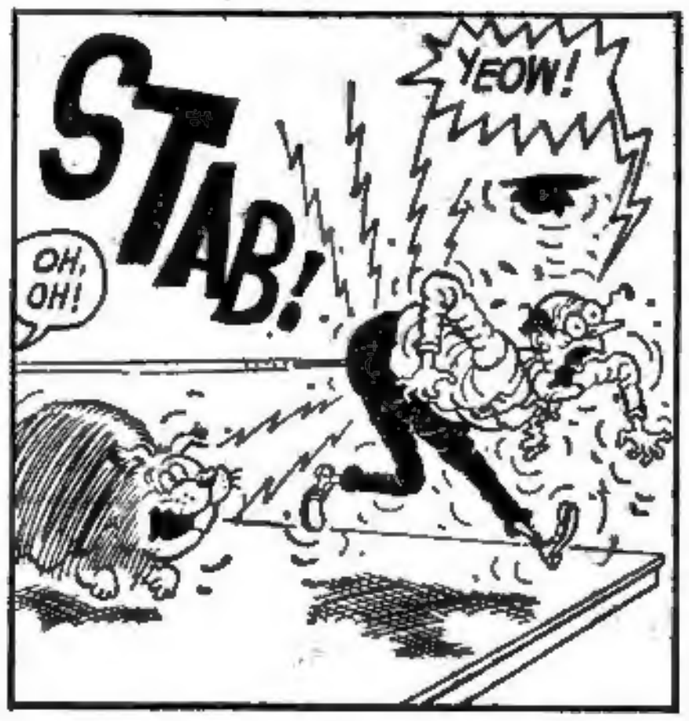

STOP HIM, TEACH.
WH-WHO-M-M-M-ME? HELP!
GRRRR
YEAH! ANIMALS LIKE YOU! PRETEND YOU'RE A LION TAMER.

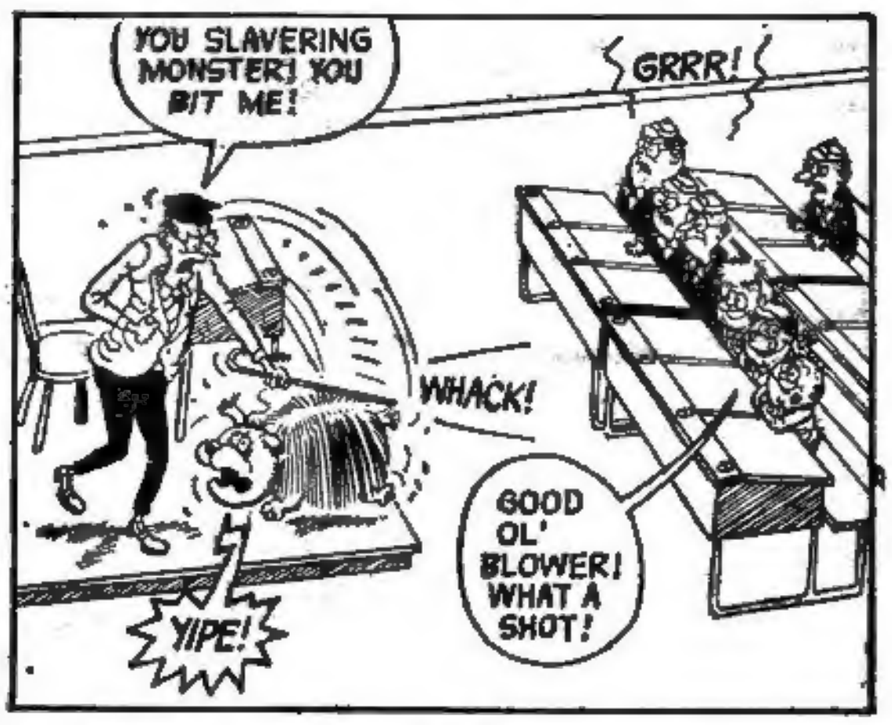

THIS IS IT! TEACHING IS A DOG'S LIFE, BUT I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE A DOG'S DINNER!
SLURP

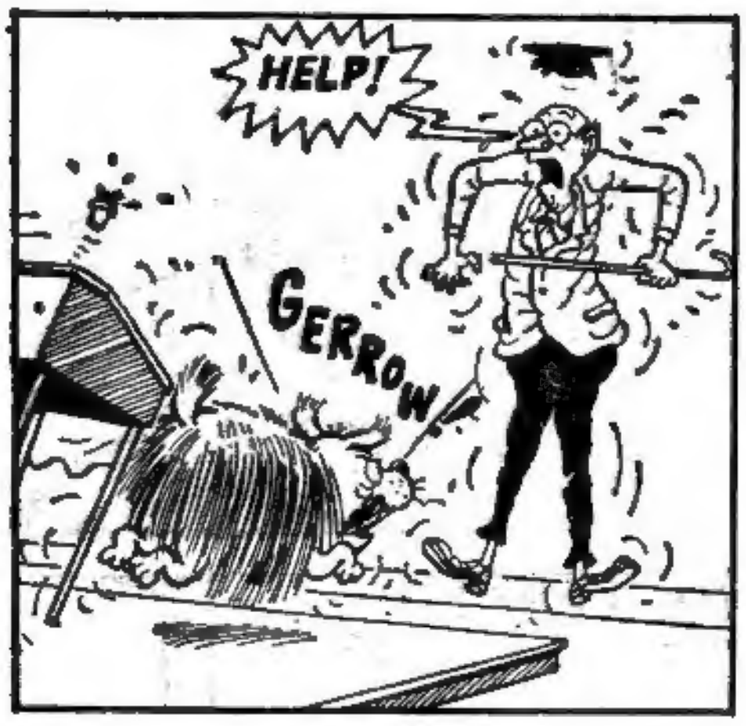

YUM, MY FAVOURITE FLAVOUR-TOFFEE AND SHAVING CREAM.
HEH! HEH! STOP YOUR TICKLING!
HE WON'T HURT YOU, TEACH. HE LIKES YOU!

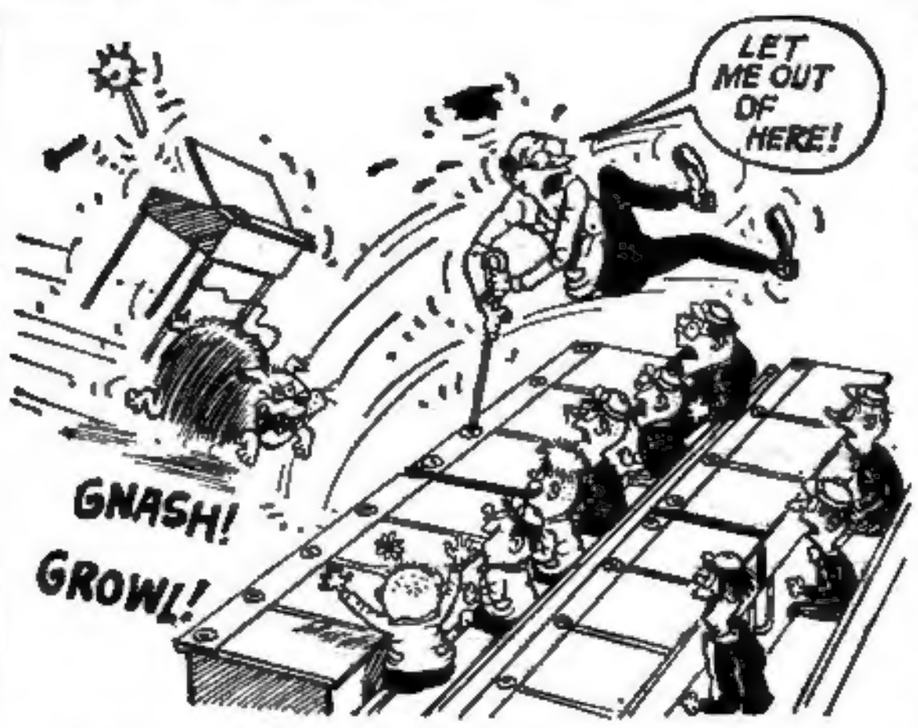

HE'S A PERFECTLY HARMLESS DOG. YOU BLOTS ARE JUST LOOKING FOR AN EXCUSE FOR COMING IN HERE LOOKING LIKE TRAMPS. YOU'LL GET AN HOUR'S DETENTION FOR THAT!
PAT!
SNEAKY OL' TOFFEE-SNATCHER.
BOO! ROTTEN OL' TEACH!

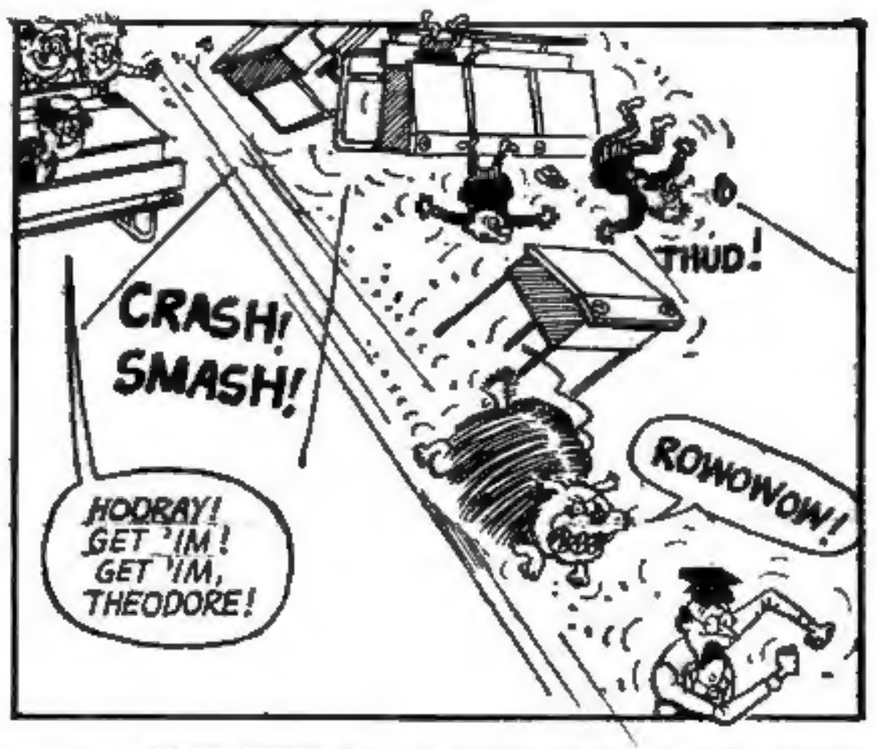

IT'S NO USE BLAMING A DUMB ANIMAL.
DUMB, AM I? HE'S MADE THREE MISTAKES IN HIS ARITHMETIC THERE.
I'LL GET THAT DOG WITH MY BLOWPIPE!

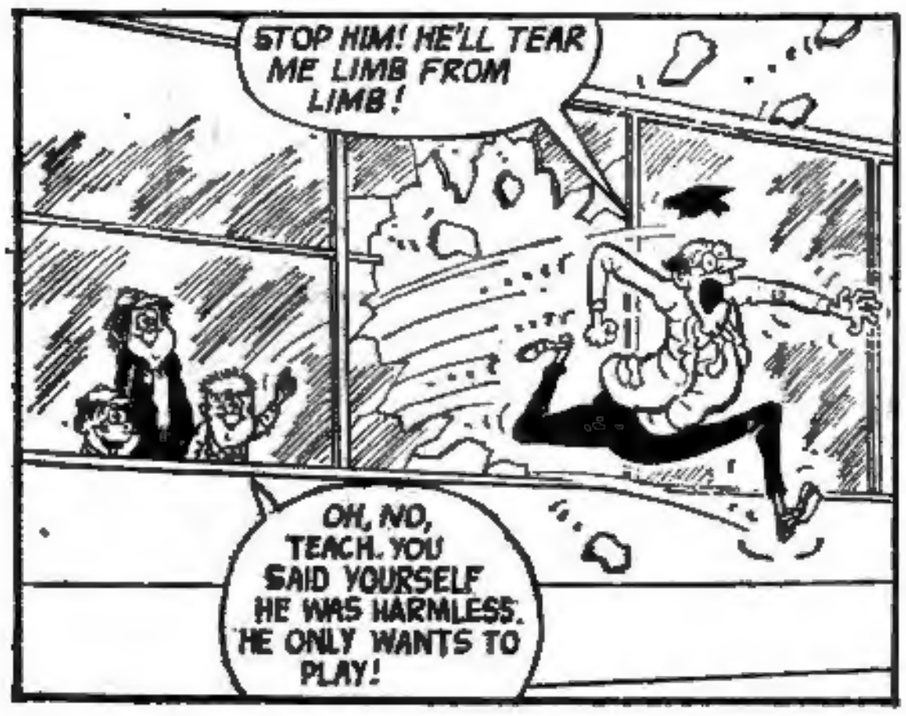

STAB!
YEOW!
OH, OH!

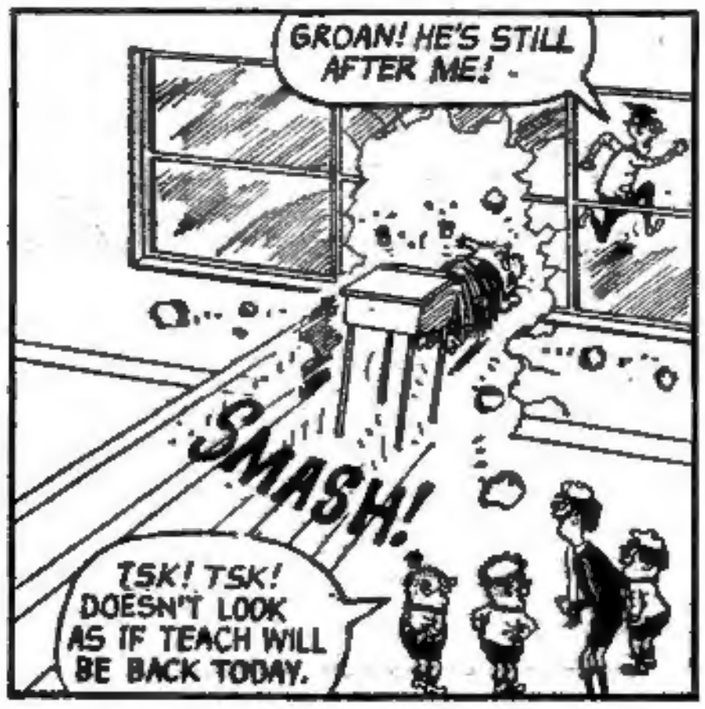

YOU SLAVERING MONSTER! YOU BIT ME!
GRRR!
WHACK!
YIPE!
GOOD OL' BLOWER! WHAT A SHOT!

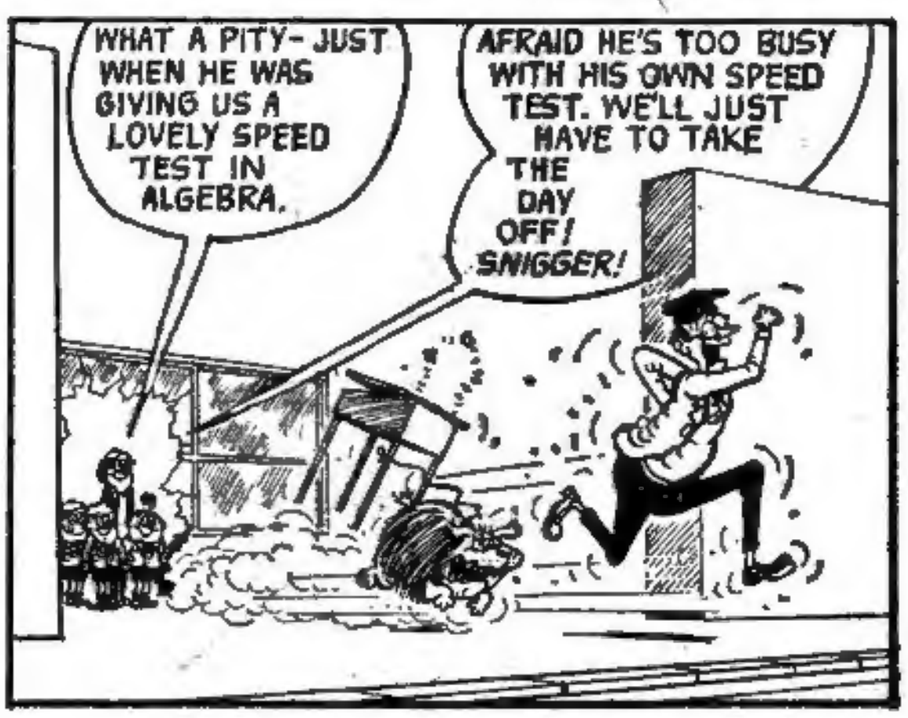

HELP!
GERROW


LET ME OUT OF HERE!
GNASH!
GROWL!


THUD!
CRASH! SMASH!
ROWOWOW!
HOORAY! GET 'IM! GET 'IM, THEODORE!


STOP HIM! HE'LL TEAR ME LIMB FROM LIMB!
OH, NO, TEACH. YOU SAID YOURSELF HE WAS HARMLESS. HE ONLY WANTS TO PLAY!


GROAN! HE'S STILL AFTER ME!
SMASH!
TSK! TSK! DOESN'T LOOK AS IF TEACH WILL BE BACK TODAY.


WHAT A PITY- JUST WHEN HE WAS GIVING US A LOVELY SPEED TEST IN ALGEBRA.
AFRAID HE'S TOO BUSY WITH HIS OWN SPEED TEST. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO TAKE THE DAY OFF! SNIGGER!

BRIAN'S BRAIN

BRIAN KINGSLEY IS THE POSSESSOR OF AN AMAZING ARTIFICIAL BRAIN. BRIAN AND HIS FRIEND DUFFY ROLLS ARE PICNICKING ON THE BANK OF LAKE DREDNOR WHERE, UNKNOWN TO THE BOYS, A STRANGE CREATURE IS SAID TO EXIST. SUDDENLY THE BRAIN SENSES DANGER WITHIN SOME NEARBY BUSHES.

WITHIN THOSE BUSHES IS— DANGER!

AND I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT DANGER IS!

BE CAREFUL, BRIAN!

BRIAN DIVES HEADLONG INTO THE BUSHES.

YEEOW!

GOT YOU!

IN A TANGLED, THRESHING BALL, BRIAN AND HIS UNKNOWN ADVERSARY EMERGE FROM THE THICKET.

WH-WHAT IS IT?

Y-YOU'RE A MAN!

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I BE, YOU YOUNG FOOL!

TREMBLING WITH RAGE THE BIG BEARDED MAN TOWERS OVER BRIAN AND DUFFY.

I'M JULIUS PILT—AND I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WANDERING ABOUT THIS PART OF THE MOOR. GET AWAY FROM HERE!

Y-YES, SIR. COME ON, BRIAN!

BUT HE'S GOT NO RIGHT TO ORDER US AWAY FROM HERE!

MAY BE, BRIAN. BUT HE'S TOO BIG TO ARGUE WITH.

THAT WAS A STRANGE TOY THOSE TWO BOYS HAD! IT WAS ALMOST LIKE AN ARTIFICIAL BRAIN. IF THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF I MUST FIND OUT MORE ABOUT IT!

BUT NOW I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO THINK ABOUT.

THE BOYS HAVE LEFT THE LAKE SOME DISTANCE BEHIND WHEN, FLOATING ACROSS THE MOORS, COMES A STRANGE AND EERIE CRY.

WH-WHAT'S THAT? WHAT KIND OF CREATURE COULD HAVE UTTERED A CRY LIKE THAT?

AIEEE!

I DON'T KNOW. I'VE NEVER BEFORE HEARD SUCH A SOUND IN MY LIFE.

THE HAUNTING PIERCING CRY HAS COME FROM THE LIPS OF JULIUS PILT. AT THE LAKE-SIDE HE STARES INTENTLY AT THE SURFACE OF THE WATER.
IT HAS SENSED MY COMMAND! HERE IT COMES—RISING TO THE SURFACE TO OBEY ME!
HARDLY HAVE THE ECHOES OF THE STRANGE CRY DIED AWAY THAN BRIAN AND DUFFY SEE A FRIGHTENED GIRL RUN INTO VIEW.
AAAH! HELP!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
WHO ARE YOU?
WITH IMMENSE RELIEF THE GIRL JOINS THE TWO BOYS.
I'M SUE MERROW AND I LIVE ON THE FARM OVER THE HILL. BUT I WAS SO FRIGHTENED WHEN I HEARD THAT DREADFUL CRY.
WE HEARD IT TOO.
WHAT WAS IT?
THE TREMBLING GIRL HESITATED A MOMENT, THEN WORDS CAME TUMBLING FROM HER LIPS.
PLEASE DON'T LAUGH. BUT I THINK THERE IS SOME KIND OF MONSTER IN THE LAKE—AND I THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH JULIUS PILT.
JULIUS PILT—IS HE A BIG, RED-BEARDED MAN?
YES. HE LIVES NOT FAR FROM HERE AND I THINK HE'S TRYING TO DRIVE US FROM OUR FARM. I FEEL SURE HE HAS SOME HORRIBLE SECRET!
THE BOYS PERSUADE SUE TO SHOW THEM WHERE JULIUS PILT LIVES.
THAT'S HIS HOUSE—BUT I'M NOT GOING ANY CLOSER TO IT. I'M TOO FRIGHTENED!
DUFFY AND I WILL TRY TO FIND OUT WHETHER THAT HOUSE DOES HOLD ANY SECRETS.
JUST AS YOU SAY, BRIAN.
THERE IS NO ANSWER TO BRIAN'S RING ON THE BIG DOOR OF THE UGLY HOUSE.
H'M! SEEMS THERE'S NO-ONE AT HOME. BUT I'D LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK INSIDE. PERHAPS THE BRAIN COULD HELP ME PICK THE LOCK OF THE DOOR.
I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!
WITH A PEN-KNIFE BRIAN SETS TO WORK UPON THE LOCK OF THE DOOR.
I COULD NEVER DO THIS ON MY OWN. BUT I CAN FEEL THE BRAIN HELPING ME.
THE LOCK SPRINGS BACK AND THE DOOR CREAKS OPEN.
COME ON, DUFFY. LET'S TAKE A LOOK INSIDE.
OOH! IT'S QUITE DARK IN THERE.
THEY STEP INTO THE GLOOMY HALL—AND THEN BOTH BOYS FREEZE WHERE THEY STAND.
AAAAH!
I—IT'S—THE MONSTER!
THE STRANGE SECRET OF THE MONSTER—NEXT WEEK!

news from the floor of 64

64, LONG ACRE
LONDON W.C.2.

WELL, HAVE YOU SEEN IT? The new, better-than-ever, two-greats-for-the-price-of-one SMASH and POW!? The best of POW now added to the best of COS's comic! And what truly GREAT things are to be had amid its laugh- and action-packed pages! SPIDER-MAN fights the villain you've all been asking to see more of . . . KRAVEN THE HUNTER! And BATMAN and ROBIN, now breath-takingly teamed up with SUPERMAN and the incredible AQUAMAN! BRIAN'S BRAIN, naturally! And of course DARE-DEVIL! The POW short stories, so much a top favourite fiction feature with so many Powerhousers. All these and more, more, more! In the new SMASH and POW! Tigers, in all modesty, we tell you . . . it's the GREATEST!

☆ ☆ ☆

WHAT'S WRONG WITH PICTURES? . . . nothing, in our books! Picture stories, we mean! Done well they could (according to Our Wise Old Feller) fit into the tempo of our times, in other words easily digested, uncluttered tales that ILLUSTRATE as well as DESCRIBE the characters and actions. (Like the cinema or t.v., hey?) But what of strictly word tales? Are we therefore agin' 'em? Indeed, we are not! For example look in FANTASTIC this week! Therein you will find the FIRST of a brand new series of WORD stories . . . but stories, you will surely agree, with a difference! Strictly Powerhouse! Try 'em and see! . . . in FANTASTIC!

MEET TWENTY PROUD POWER-PACK PEOPLE . . .

John Murphy, Battersea, London; Oliver Curley, Portumna, Co. Galway, Ireland; Alasdair Straker, Dumbarton, Scotland; Colin Procter, Edmonton, London, N.9; Scott Chapman, Ipswich, Suffolk; Glenn W. Hazzard, Welling, Kent; Mervyn Carr, Boksburg, Transvaal, South Africa; M. J. Morris, Newton, Chester; Christopher Delworth, Gt. Wakering, Essex; T. Aderson, North Shields, Northumberland; Stephen Dorsey, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks.; James Harrold, Dunfermline, Fife, Scotland; Neil Etherington, Edlington, nr. Doncaster, Yorks.; Chris Wright, Birkdale, Southport, Lancs.; "The Tiger," Bungay, Suffolk; John Garside, Dartford, Kent; Jack Reynolds, Leeds 11, Yorks.; Andre Walker, Millbrook, Southampton; Frances Baker, Hesket New Market, nr. Wigton, Cumberland; Janet Bull, Whalley, nr. Blackburn, Lancs.

WHO SAID OUR VILLAINS ARE JUST MUSCLE-BOUND LAME-BRAINS? Nobody that we know of, we admit! But in case anyone out there has been thinking along same slanderous lines . . . then take a look at the baddie who put himself up against the FANTASTIC-based AVENGERS this week! By name THE MAD THINKER! But don't run away with the idea that this is a titivated to tickle the tastes of egg-heads, will you! Because we'd hate you to be wrong! Because this great new Avengers extravaganza is action, action all the way!

SPEAKING OF 'FANTASTIC' . . . we did say, last week, that something of monumental significance to all X-MEN fans would appear this week. Well, now you can see for yourselves. In FANTASTIC right now! . . . an added earth-shaking feature to our marvellous mutants epic battle against GROTESK. True comics-buffs, we kid you not . . . this is a tale, this is an issue that MUST be a part of your collection.

FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER IN SMASH! . . .

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN IN "The THRILL of THE HUNT!"

NEVER HAS ANY PREY POSSESSED STRENGTH ENOUGH TO MEET YOUR ATTACK HEAD-ON... AND TO HURL YOU AWAY WITH THE SPEED OF A SERPENT!

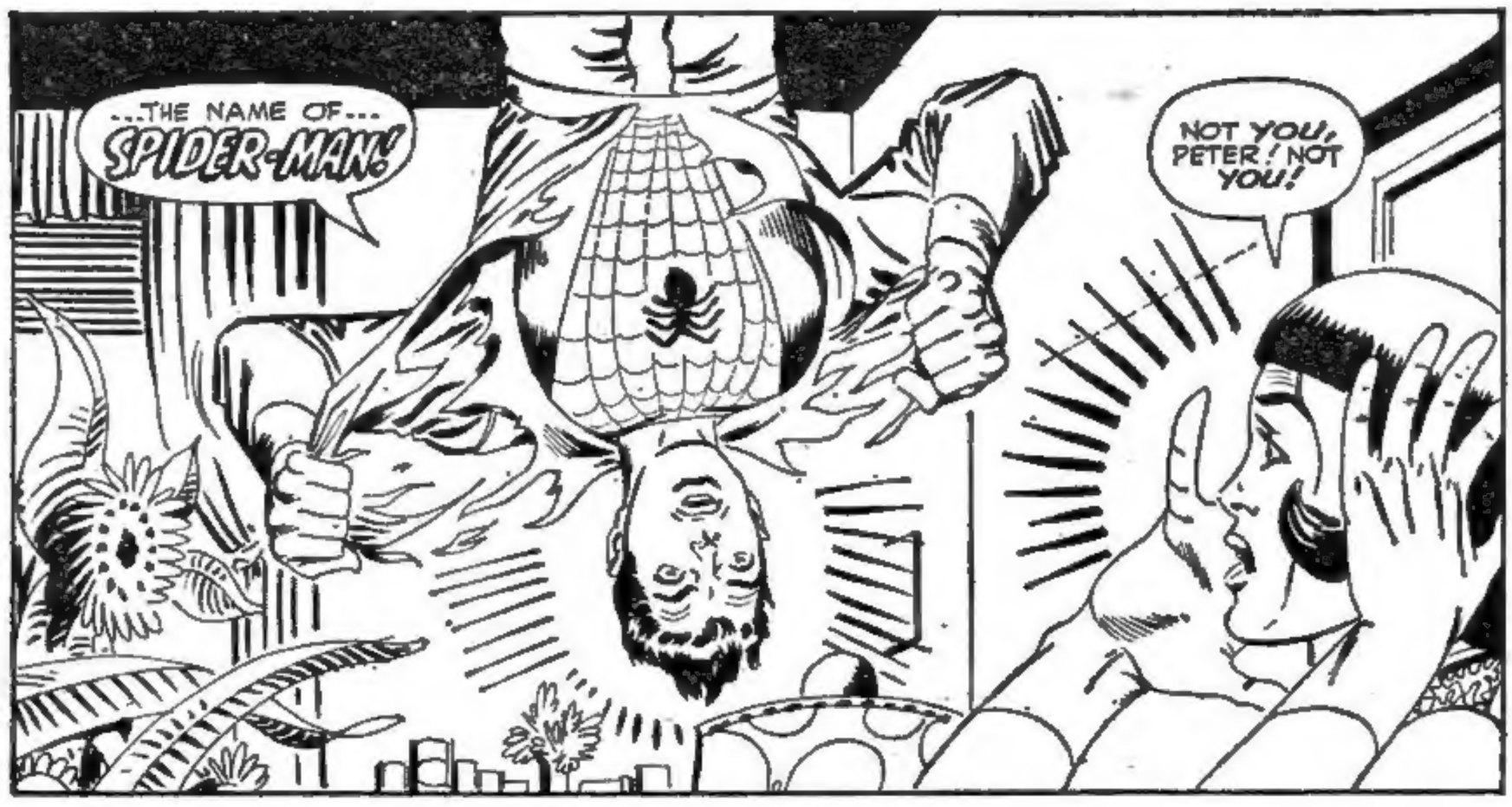
THEN, SCANT SECONDS LATER...
FLEE, SIMBA! I ALLOW YOU TO RUN OFF AND LICK YOUR WOUNDS.. BUT MY NEXT VICTIM WILL BE FAR LESS LUCKY!

DAYS LATER, AT THE BUSTLING PORT OF NAIROBI...
ONCE I'VE DELIVERED MY FOUR-LEGGED CAPTIVES TO THEIR ZOO CAGES! I'LL BE FREE TO BEGIN THE GREATEST HUNT OF ALL...!
THE HUNT FOR SPIDER-MAN!

MEANWHILE, AN OCEAN AWAY, WE FIND A STARTLING, UNEXPECTED TABLEAU UNFOLDING BEFORE OUR INCREDULOUS EYES...!
I KNOW YOU'RE KEEPING SOME TERRIBLE SECRET FROM ME! YOU MUST TELL ME WHAT IT IS, PETER! YOU MUST!
VERY WELL, BETTY! YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW...!

GET A GOOD GRIP ON YOURSELF, BETTY! THIS MAY BE A SHOCK TO YOU..!
PETER!!!

PETER? THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE NAMES I'M KNOWN BY..!
OH NO... NO!
I ALSO ANSWER TO ANOTHER NAME...


...THE NAME OF... SPIDER-MAN!
NOT YOU, PETER! NOT YOU!

NO! NOT YOU! IT CAN'T..! WHA...??
I-I'VE BEEN ASLEEP! IT WAS ONLY...A DREAM!

OH, THANK HEAVENS! IT'S NOT SO! I MERELY DREAMT IT!
I..I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HIM...NIGHT AND DAY!
WHATEVER PETER'S SECRET IS... WHATEVER HE'S HIDING FROM ME...IT CAN'T BE..THAT!

IT'S NO USE...I CAN'T FALL ASLEEP AGAIN! NOT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT I MUST MAKE A DECISION ABOUT HIM! IT CANNOT BE PUT OFF ANY LONGER!

MEANWHILE, IN A QUIET SECTION OF FOREST HILLS, WE FIND THE YOUNG MAN IN QUESTION...
NOW THAT AUNT MAY IS OUT OF DANGER,* I CAN GET BACK TO MY STUDYING AGAIN...!
*AFTER LAST WEEK'S CRITICAL OPERATION, REMEMBER?... ALF.

IT'S GREAT TO KNOW THAT THINGS ARE GETTING BACK TO NORMAL AT LAST!
IT'LL BE A PLEASURE TO RETURN TO COLLEGE AND BE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE ON WHAT'S GOING ON!
BOY, AM I BUSHED!

THUS, AT THE HOSPITAL NEXT DAY, WE FIND...

WHY, ANNA WATSON! HOW SWEET OF YOU TO COME AND VISIT ME!

I'D HAVE COME SOONER, MAY, DEAR... BUT I WAS OUT OF TOWN AND DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE ILL!

IT WAS JUST A SILLY OLD OPERATION! BUT PETER IS THE ONE I'M WORRIED ABOUT! THE POOR BOY HASN'T HAD A SOUL TO LOOK AFTER HIM, ALL THIS TIME!

AWW, I'VE BEEN FINE, AUNT MAY! HONEST!

I'VE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU, MRS. PARKER! ALL YOUR TESTS HAVE CHECKED OUT PERFECTLY! YOU CAN RETURN HOME TODAY!

DOC, YOU'RE THE GREATEST!

NOW YOU RUN OFF TO SCHOOL, PETER! MRS. WATSON WILL SEE ME HOME! WE'VE SO MUCH TO TALK ABOUT!

AFTER A FEW DAYS' REST, YOU'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW AGAIN!

OKAY, BUT NO PLAYING FOOTBALL FOR A WHILE, HEAR?

PETER PARKER... YOU'RE A CAUTION!

AND SO, NOT TO BE LEFT BEHIND, WE TOO SHALL VISIT PETER'S UNIVERSITY AND RENEW A FEW ACQUAINTANCESHIPS...

C'MON, GWEN! YOU PROMISED YOU'D GO TO THE GAME WITH ONE OF US!

ADMIT IT, DOLL! YOU'VE DECIDED ON ME!

UH UH! I'M THE LUCKY GUY THIS TIME!

GIVE US A BREAK, GWEN! WHO IS IT?

SORRY, LADS... I'VE GOT TO RUSH TO CLASS NOW! BUT I PROMISE TO THINK ABOUT IT!

BUT, YOU'VE BEEN KEEPING US ON THE STRING ALL WEEK!

I KNOW! AND YOU LOVE IT!

HONEY, THE GUY WHO FINALLY TAKES YOU OUT OF CIRCULATION WILL BE THE MOST HATED JOE IN COLLEGE!

IT'S STRANGE! PETER PARKER IS THE ONLY BOY WHO HASN'T PAID ANY ATTENTION TO ME!

OH! MY BOOK...!

WELL, WELL! AT LAST I'VE A CHANCE TO BE A HERO, WITHOUT TURNING INTO SPIDER-MAN!

ALLOW ME, FAIR MAIDEN...!

YOU! DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH MY BOOK!

HUH??!

LOOK, I DON'T GET IT! WHAT GIVES?

DO WE HAVE TO SPELL IT OUT FOR YOU? YOU'RE AS POPULAR HERE AS YELLOW FEVER!

YOU TELL 'IM, HARRY BOY!

YOU'VE BEEN SNUBBIN' US SINCE SCHOOL STARTED... WALKING AROUND HERE LIKE A SWELL-HEADED SNOB, JUST BECAUSE YOU WON A SCHOLARSHIP!

WELL, THAT'S OKAY WITH US! BUT DON'T THINK YOU CAN BECOME ONE OF THE CROWD ANY TIME YOU FEEL LIKE IT!

NOW I GET IT! WHEN I WAS WORRIED ABOUT AUNT MAY... WRAPPED UP IN MY OWN PROBLEMS... THEY THOUGHT I WAS HIGH-HATTING THEM!

THE OL' PETER PARKER LUCK SURE IS RUNNING TRUE TO FORM!

I GUESS I CAN'T BLAME THEM FOR THINKING I'M THE PRIZE CRUMB OF THE YEAR!

BUT, I SURE DON'T INTEND TO BEG THEM FOR A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN!

ANYWAY, THEY'LL GET OVER IT! MEANTIME, I'D BETTER BUCKLE DOWN AND CATCH UP ON THE LAB WORK I'VE MISSED!

I GUESS WE TOLD THAT EGG-HEAD WHERE TO GET OFF, EH, GWEN?

I GUESS SO, HARRY!

BUT, I WONDER WHY I FEEL A BIT ASHAMED OF MYSELF!

AFTER ALL, HE HAS COLD-SHOULDERED ALL OF US EVER SINCE HE CAME TO COLLEGE AND YET...

PERHAPS HE HAD A REASON! PERHAPS WE JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND..!

THAT GWEN IS A KNOCKOUT! IF ONLY... AW, WHAT'S THE USE?!!

BUT HE COULDN'T CARE LESS! LOOK AT HIM BENDING OVER THOSE TEST-TUBES! HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW I EXIST!

WELL, MR. PETER PARKER... JUST YOU WAIT!

LATER, AFTER CLASS HAS ENDED...

POLICE SIRENS! SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED! LOOK AT THEM. GO!

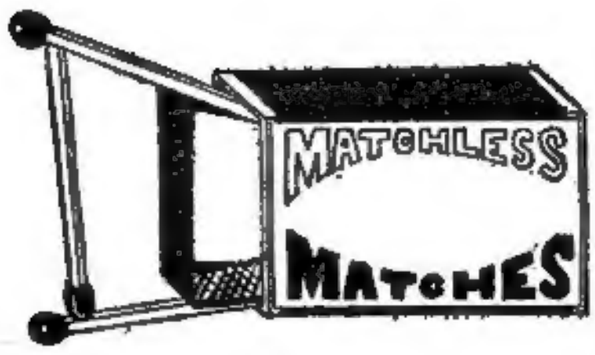
WHEEEEEEEEE

IT'LL ONLY TAKE ME A COUPLE OF SECONDS TO CHANGE TO SPIDER-MAN!

THEN, I CAN ZIP AFTER THEM AND GET SOME PHOTOS OF THE ACTION!

MEET . . . Mister Knowall

He knows everything there is to know about everything—and he's here to show you what a load of laughs it is to be a Knowall, too!



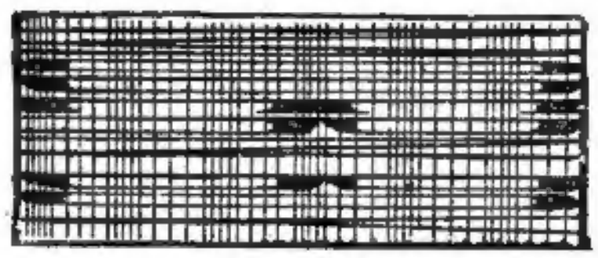
CHALLENGE!

What do you think this funny pattern represents? You've no idea? Well, have a long, hard look at it from every angle before you just sit back and wait for me to give you the answer. One clue is that it probably describes you perfectly. 'Nuff said till next week!

IF you were to light the horizontal match in the middle, which of the two vertical matches would it set light to first?

Try and think out the answer to this teaser without actually lighting the matches—but if you MUST prove it out, GET DAD to do it for you . . . anyway, you can take my word for it the answer below is correct.

Neither of the vertical matches will catch light! The middle match will shoot out before this can happen! So you can see that this trick should never be done indoors!



Two fathers and two sons are sitting round the table? What is the least number of people there?

Three! A grandfather, father and son. Get it?

True or False?

JOE HIGGS was on a spending spree—which made the police very suspicious since he had only recently been released from jail.

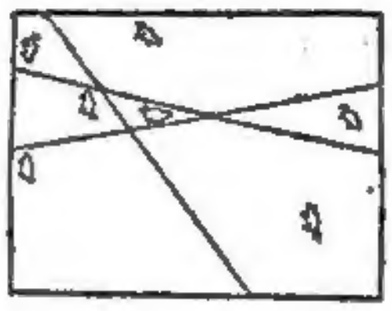
He had had no time to earn the money . . . so they decided to ask him where it all came from.

"Sorry, I can't tell you," said Joe—"you see, someone sent me an anonymous cheque for a hundred quid . . . must be someone who owed me the money, I suppose."

Well, if YOU were the police officer in charge—would YOU believe him? Think about it before you look at the answer below.

★

ALL THE ANSWERS



I challenged you last week to divide up the piggery with only three lines to separate each pig from the rest. The answer is in the picture above.

Joe's story was false. To cash a cheque it must be signed. So how could he have received an anonymous cheque and cashed it?

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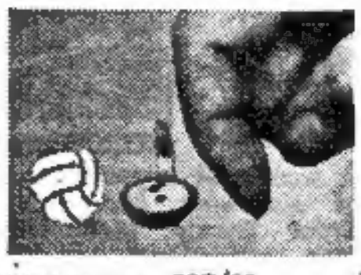

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SUBBUTEO
(DEPT 60) LANGTON GREEN, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

Dear Alf and Cos,
In the Batman story, in issues 126 and 127, Pretty Boy Floy and his sister could have unmasked Batman. Why didn't they? He was unconscious so he couldn't have done anything to stop them.

Midhat Hammouri,
Kuwait.

Well, they were expecting Batman to be having a fatal "accident" in the near future, weren't they? About the only reasons for discovering his identity would be to blackmail him for money, or force him to stop his crusading activities; and as he was going to be bumped off anyway why bother? That's the way we've figured it, anyway!

Alf and Cos.

JOKE LETTER

Dear Alf and Cos,
What did one cannibal say to the other when he saw a missionary riding by on a bicycle? "Look, Meals on wheels!"

C. J. Docherty,
Thorpe Bay, Essex.

Dear Alf and Cos,
I buy Smash every week, and I enjoy every bit of it, but I noticed a mistake in Smash 132, in Batman. In Smash 131, Batman's utility belt, with his homing-device in it, was thrown out of Tyrone Koom's plane by the baddies so that no-one would be able to find Batman. Then in Smash 132, in the picture where Batman pleads with his captors to find out if Robin is O.K., Batman is wearing his utility belt, but not in any of the other pictures in that issue. How come?

M. Farrington,
Marple, Cheshire.

Well, we've checked back through the issues involved and we're going to stick our necks out and say we don't think it was Batman's utility belt that showed in that picture, but the safety belt of the plane seat he was sitting in (saved by the belt!). And thanks to other readers who picked up the same point but whose letters we haven't got space to answer!

Alf and Cos.

Dear Alf and Cos,
I wish you could have a "Smash short story" in Smash like the "Pow short story" in Pow.

Derek Delaney,
Terenure, Dublin.

Well, what do you know?—this week as ever was your wish comes true! As you'll see in this very ish, the brilliant blending of Smash and Pow means you get your short story . . . and the best of Pow with the best of Smash besides. We hope you'll like it: we do!

Alf and Cos.

Dear Alf and Cos,
Smash 132 was great because it had spooks and ghosts. Please may we have some more? If I remember Grimly Feendish had a snuffle bat called Percy and lots more creepies. What has happened to them? Will you please tell your kind artist to draw me a haunted house (inside please!)?

Alan Chambers,
Aldershot, Hants.

We like a touch of the ghoulish ourselves, Alan; Grimly's pets are just the sort you'd like to have around the house! Have to see what we can do. As for the drawing of the inside of a haunted house . . . where do you think we could get an artist brave enough? (And besides, they'd want overtime for working after midnight!)

Alf and Cos.

Dear Alf and Cos,
I think you are putting too many super-hero stories in. Why doesn't one get killed? Also there are too many "find-out-next-week" stories. I think we should have more that end in the same issue. And why not make up a story with a cartoon monster in it? My favourites are Bad Penny and the Nervs, but I think Baby Smasher is nice too.

S. Buchan,
Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

Kill a super-hero? Shhh! You can't be serious! About monsters though—we've got a very nice line in monsters coming up in Brian's Brain at the moment—and what about the necro-mimetic nasty the Cloak is currently versing? Should be enough to satisfy the most discriminating of creepy-lovers!

Alf and Cos.

DON'T FORGET THE COUPON!

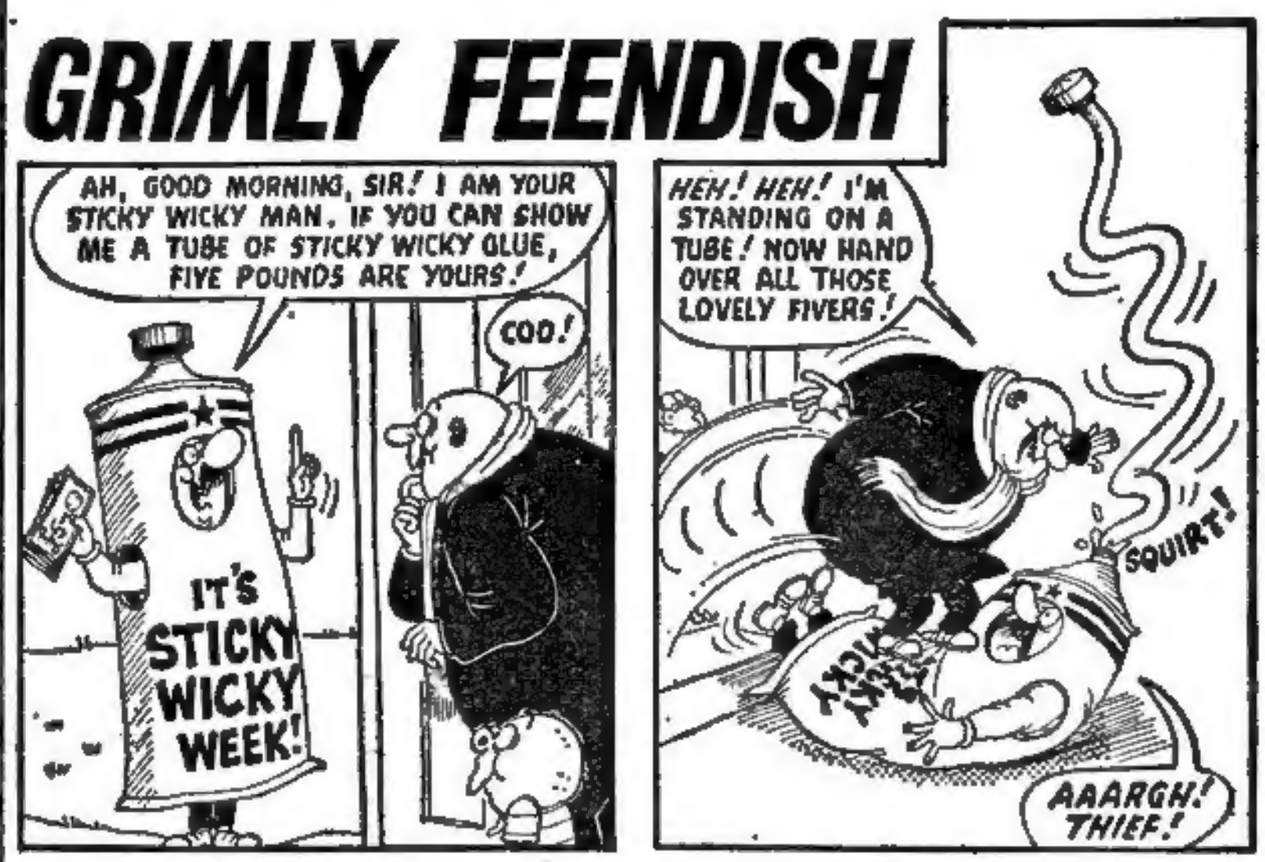
My favourite feature is

.....

My second favourite feature is

.....

Send the coupon with your letter to: Alf and Cos, SMASH and POW, 64 Long Acre, London, W.C.2.



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4. What is the former name of "GHANA"? .....

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UNIVERSAL STAMP COMPANY
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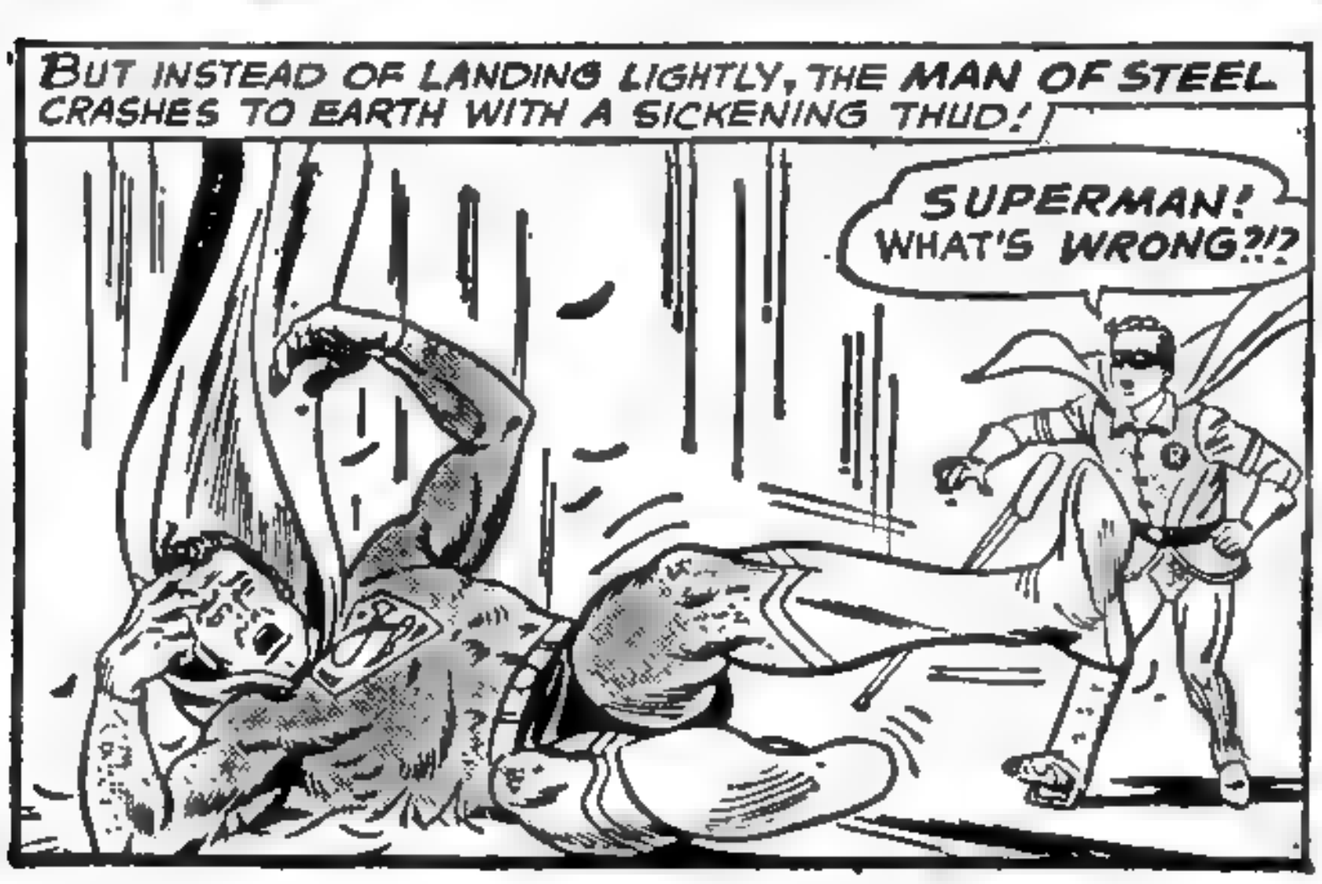
SOMETHING UNFORESEEN IS ALWAYS HAPPENING WHEN HE'S AROUND! —
WIZARD PRANG IN DEMON DRUID
— HE SPELLS TROUBLE FOR JUST ABOUT EVERYONE!
WIZ WAR!
HMM! THAT WIZ AND HIS VULTURE ARE GETTING TOO BIG FOR THEIR BOOTS! I THINK I OUGHT TO REDUCE THEM! — SNIGGER!
I HAVE A PLAN! HEH! HEH!
SNIGGER! I'VE GOT JUST THE SPELL TO FIX THEM!
POISON IVY, HOT CROSS BUNS — SWEATY SOCKS AND BUBBLE GUMS — BENT TIN-TACKS AND BITS OF RUBBLE — HERE'S WHAT YOU CALL A POT OF TROUBLE!!
INSTANT POWDERED SPELLS
HEE! HEE! NOW I'VE PUT IT INTO A SPRAY CAN! A DEAD MODERN DRUID, THAT'S ME!
ZOOM!
DEMON DRUID LIVES HERE — SO WATCH IT, VARLETS!
— ONE SQUIRT AND OL' WIZ PRANG AND HIS ROTTEN VULTURE WILL BE REDUCED TO CLOBBERING SIZE! HO! HO!
WHIZ!
LOVELY COOKING SMELLS.
COME ON, ENGLEBERT — HURRY WITH THE CAKE! YOUR OL' MASTER'S STARVING! SLOBBER!
HMM! SO THE VULTURE'S IN THE KITCHEN, IS HE! THAT MAKES THINGS EASIER!! —
HERE HE COMES! THIS'LL BE A PIECE OF CAKE!
KITCHEN
ONE CAKE COMING UP, WIZ —
'BYE-'BYE, LITTLE FRIEND!
HISSS!
SHRINK!
TAKE THAT, TINY PEST!
EEK!
SWISH!
SWAT!
AND NOW TO FIX YOU, WIZ! 'BYE-'BYE — YOU'RE ABOUT TO JOIN YOUR TINY FRIEND! JUST ONE QUICK SQUIRT —
EH? — WHAT?
PRESS!
OOPS! SORRY, D.D. — I MUST PASS THE PLATE! OH, DEAR — YOUR SPRAY HAS BACKFIRED!
BOUNCE!
CHEERIO, D.D. — BUT NEVER MIND, I'M SURE IT'LL SOON WEAR OFF. AND, IN THE MEANTIME ...
SHRINK!
... YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PLAY WITH ENGLEBERT NOW YOU ARE HIS SIZE! WON'T THAT BE FUN!!
GRRR!
SUDDENLY, I FEEL A HEADACHE ABOUT TO COME ON! — GULP!
HELP!

AND NOW SUPERMAN AND AQUAMAN . . .

WITH BATMAN And ROBIN The Boy Wonder

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, A TROPICAL ISLAND IS DUE TO BLOW UP TAKING **BATMAN** WITH IT. AND, IN THE MEANTIME, TYRONE KOOM HAS DESTROYED HIMSELF AND BATMAN'S KIDNAPPERS TO BOOT! MEANWHILE, ROBIN MAKES A DESPERATE PHONE CALL FOR HELP.



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WHEN...DID YOU LAST SEE BATMAN--?
HE WAS BEING TAKEN AWAY IN A PLANE ON A COURSE THIRTY DEGREES TO THE NORTHWEST-- STRAIGHT OUT TO SEA!

THE PLANE THAT KIDNAPPED BATMAN WAS HEADED STRAIGHT OUT TO SEA?
MAYBE THEY DROPPED HIM ON SOME UNCHARTED ISLAND!

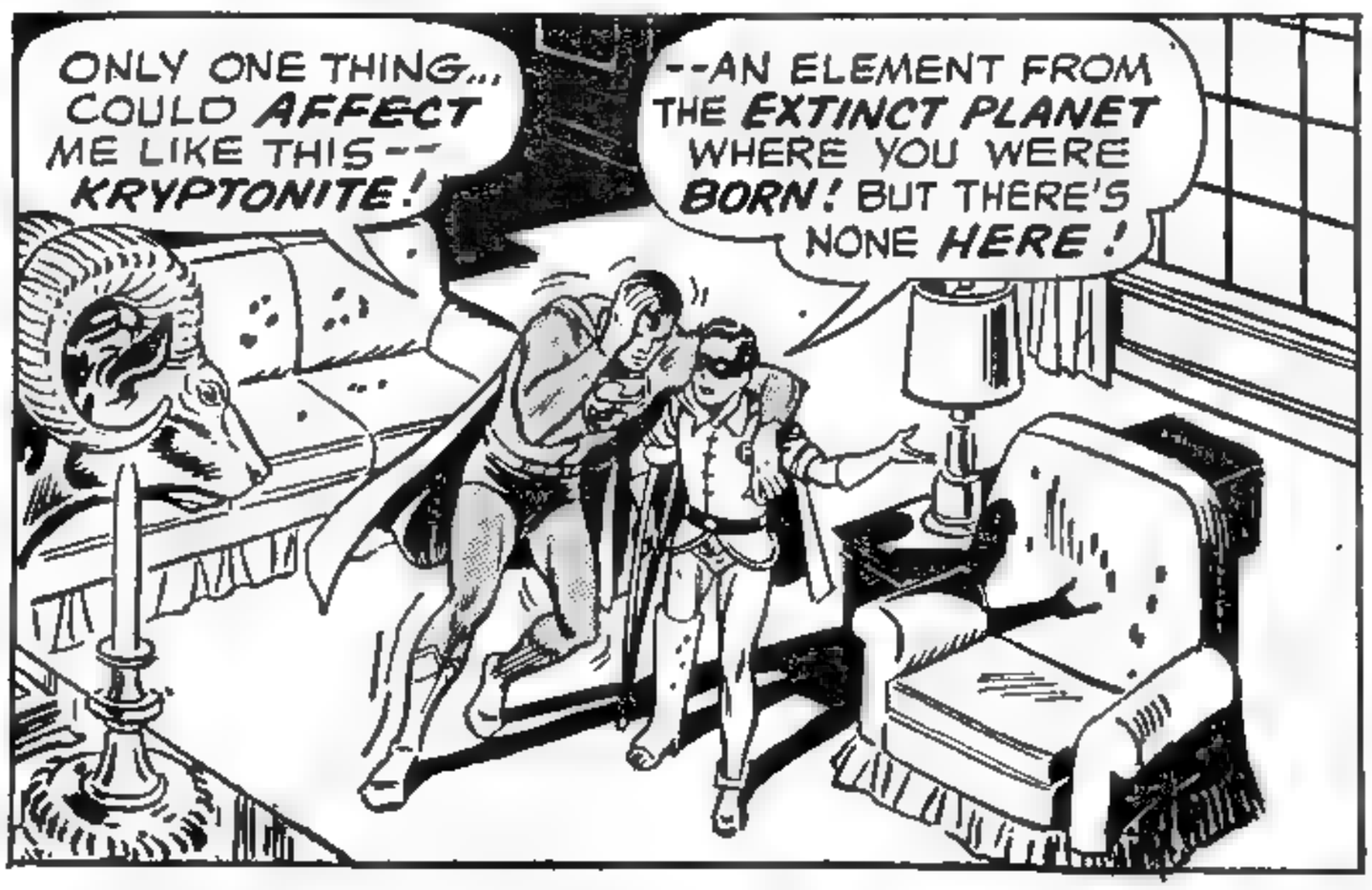
THEN WITH ME UNABLE TO HELP, THERE'S ONLY ONE OTHER PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO MIGHT FIND HIM!--AQUAMAN!

CAN YOU GET ME TO YOUR SHORT-WAVE RADIO-TRANSMITTER?
I CAN TRY!

COMMISSIONER GORDON AND CHIEF O'HARA ARRIVE AT THE OFFICE OF THE LATE TYRONE KOOM...
DEAD OF CYANIDE POISONING-- ALL OF THEM!
--AND JUDGING BY THE COMPANY HE KEPT, BILLIONAIRE KOOM WAS NO BETTER THAN THESE OTHER CROOKS!

--AND THE BATMOBILE WAS FOUND ABANDONED IN FRONT OF THIS VERY BUILDING!

I HAVE A HUNCH THEY DID BATMAN IN!


ONLY ONE THING... COULD AFFECT ME LIKE THIS-- KRYPTONITE!
--AN ELEMENT FROM THE EXTINCT PLANET WHERE YOU WERE BORN! BUT THERE'S NONE HERE!

ANYWAY--RIGHT NOW THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO FIND BATMAN--

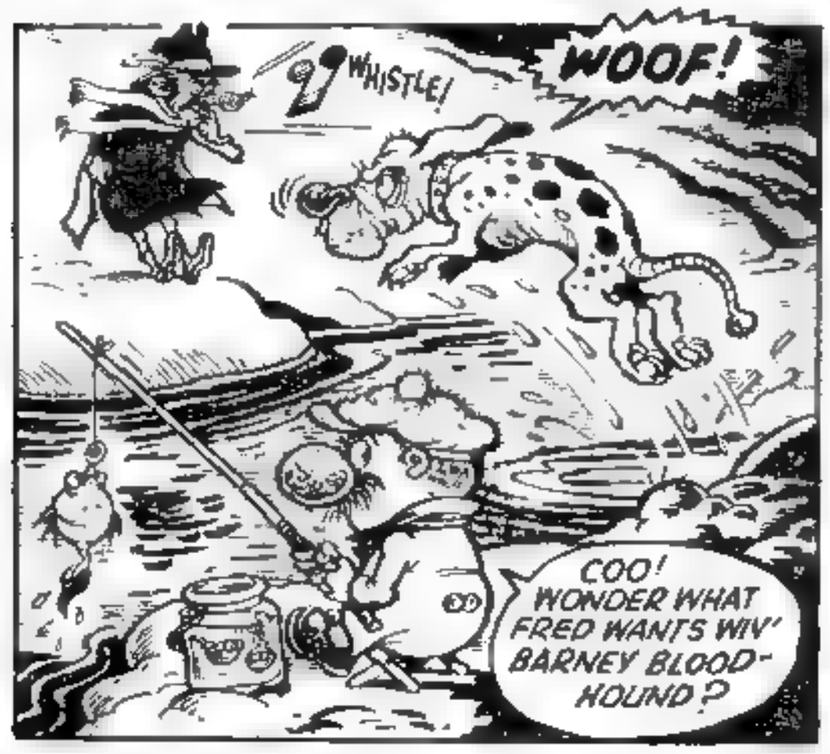
--SO IF THE KIDNAP-PLANE TOOK HIM TO SOME UNCHARTED ISLAND, I'VE GOT TO REACH THE ONE PERSON WHO CAN HELP US!
--AND THAT MEANS AQUAMAN!
SHORT WAVE RADIO
BATINUED NEXT ISH.

THE NERVS

@UTSIDE FATTY'S ELBOW DEPARTMENT —
GRR! ALL THAT LAUGHING IS DRIVING US ROUND THE BEND!
HA-HA HO-HO HEE HEE
YEAH! THE BEND OF FATTY'S ELBOW!
ELBOW BEND.
WE PROTEST
LAFFER ABATEMENT SOC
ABOLISH GIGGLES

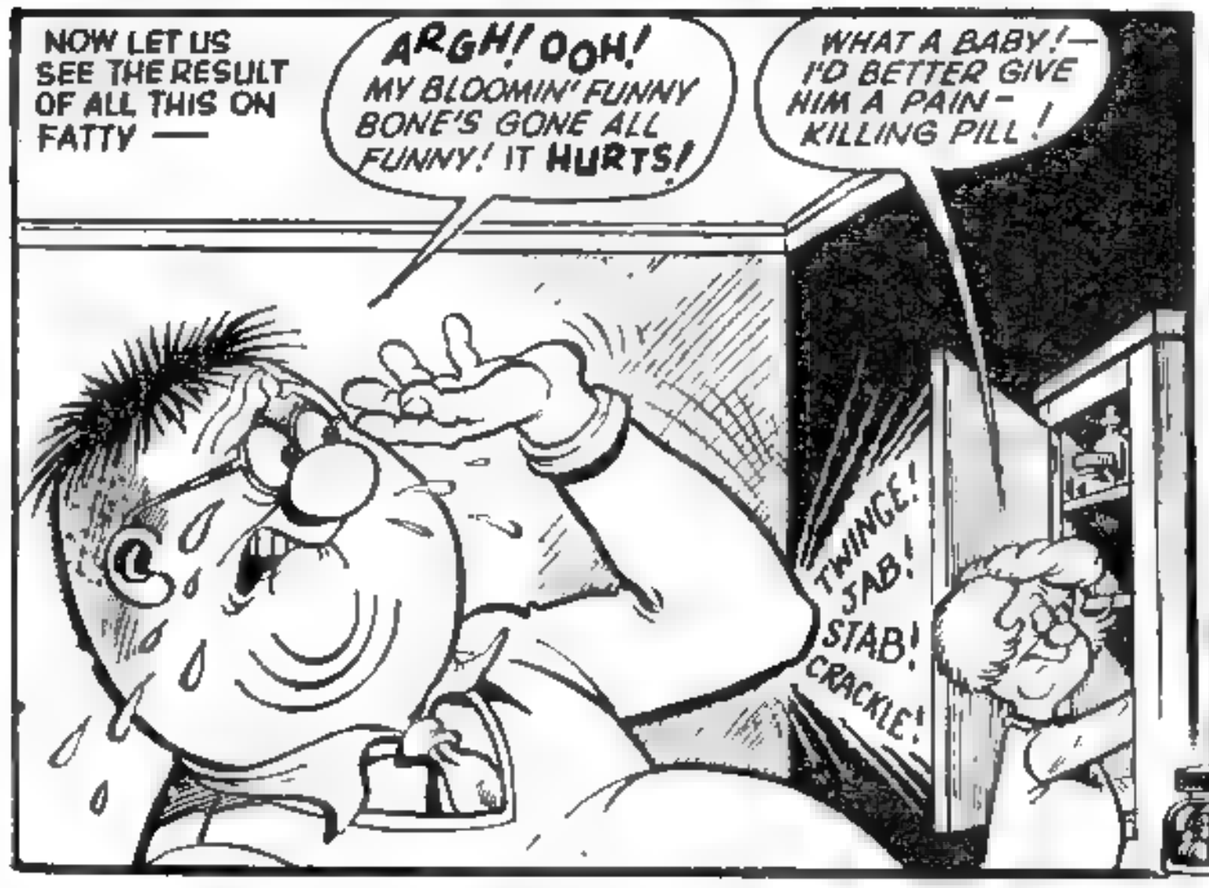
INSIDE THE ELBOW DEPARTMENT —
PERSONALLY, WE LIKE FATTY'S FUNNY BONE! CHEERFUL CHAP — ALWAYS LAUGHING!
HA-HA! HO-HO! HA-HA!
GASP! GURGLE!
TEE-HEE! HEE-HEE!

BUT, OUTSIDE, ONE NERV — FRED THE FROWN — DECIDES TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! —
TO THE BLOOD STREAM.
GRR! THAT BLINKIN' BONE HAS GOT TO GO!
NO FISHING

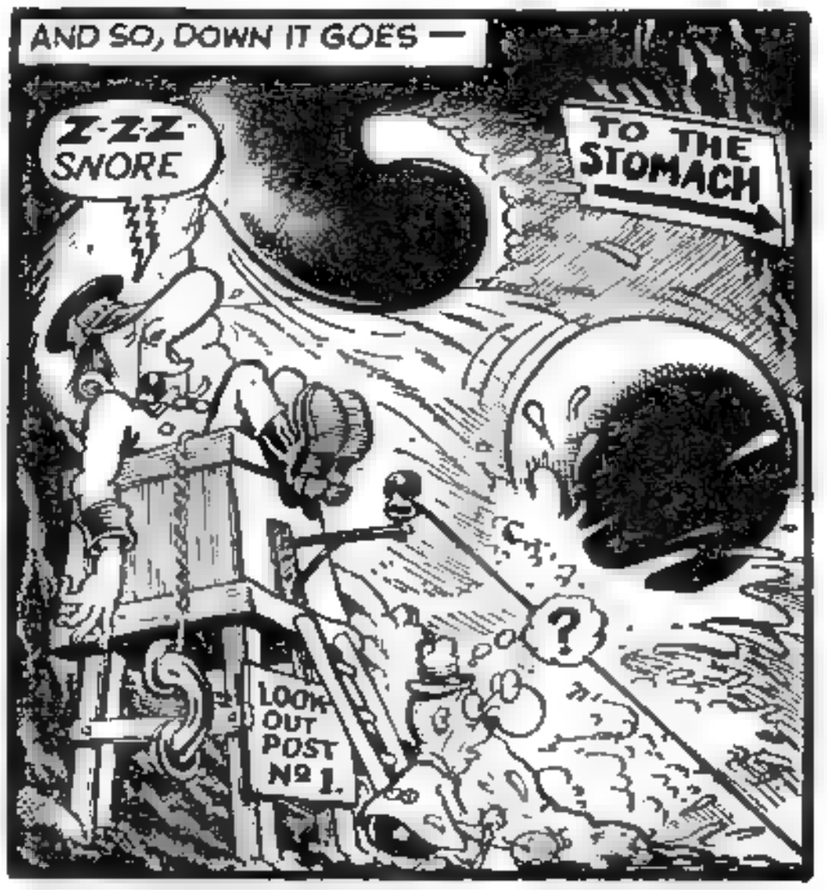

WHISTLE!
WOOF!
COO! WONDER WHAT FRED WANTS WIV' BARNEY BLOOD-HOUND?

COME ON, BARNEY — I'VE GOT A NICE, JUICY BONE FOR YOU!
GOOD! I'M FED UP WITH FISH BONES!
SNIFF! SNIFF!
THERE YOU ARE BARNEY — A NICE, JUICY BONE — JUST AS I PROMISED YOU! HEH-HEH!
ARG! HE'S SCOFFING OUR BONE!

AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE FUNNY BONE DEPARTMENT —
WOOF!
HEE-HEE-! EEK!
GR-R!
CALL OUT THE GUARD!


NOW LET US SEE THE RESULT OF ALL THIS ON FATTY —
ARGH! OOH! MY BLOOMIN' FUNNY BONE'S GONE ALL FUNNY! IT HURTS!
WHAT A BABY! — I'D BETTER GIVE HIM A PAIN-KILLING PILL!
TWINGE! JAB! STAB! CRACKLE!

TA, MA! I HATE PAIN! — HERE GOES —
GULP!
PAIN KILLER


AND SO, DOWN IT GOES —
Z-Z-Z SNORE
TO THE STOMACH
LOOK OUT POST Nº 1.
?

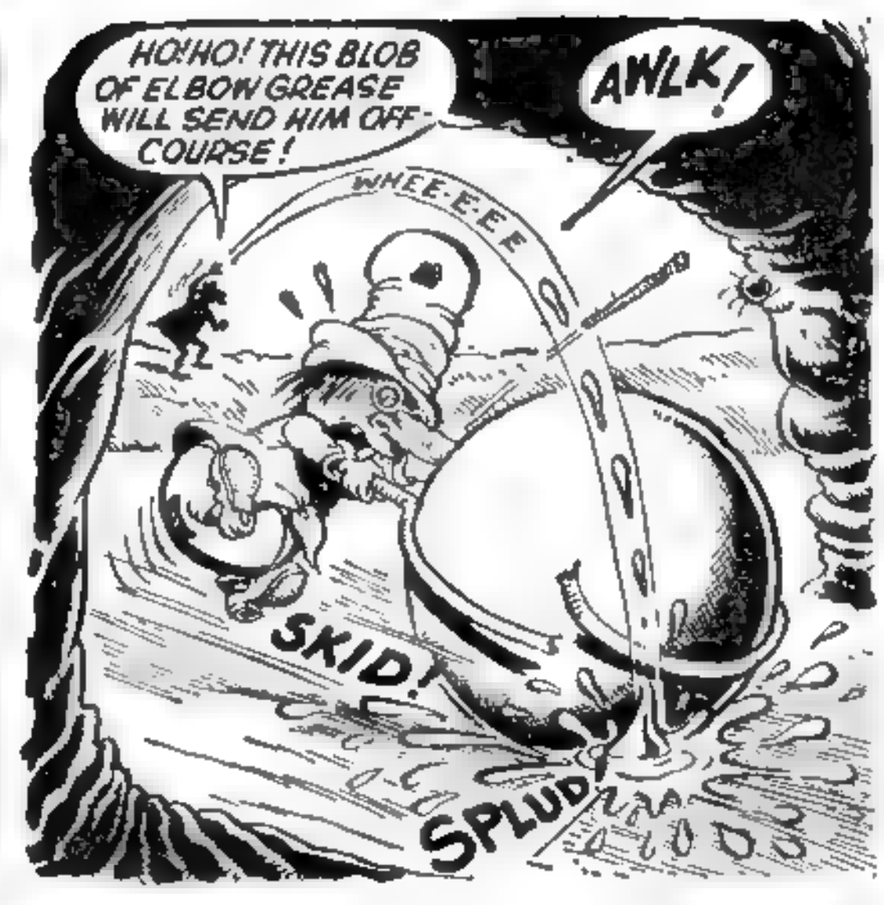
— AND, ONE WHOOSH LATER, LANDS 'PLONK' IN FATTY'S TUM!
GRUB CHUTE
AWLK! WHY DIDN'T THAT GINK OF A GUARD IN GULLET GULCH WARN US THAT THIS LOT WAS ON ITS WAY!
WHOOSH!
THUD!

GORR! IT'S A PAIN-KILLER, ALL RIGHT! IT NEARLY KILLED US!! OOOH!
PAIN KILLER
ACHE! THROB! TWINGE!

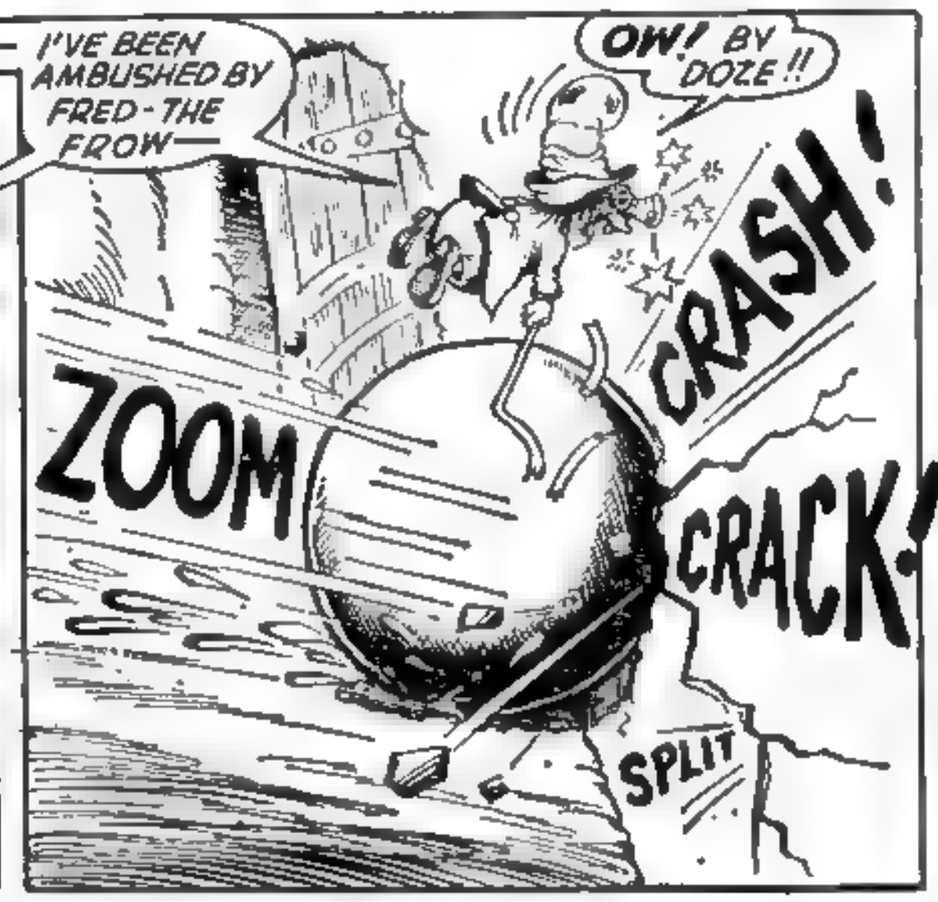
MESSAGE FROM THE BRAIN DEPARTMENT — THAT PILL'S GOT TO BE DELIVERED FAST TO FATTY'S ELBOW DEPARTMENT!
COMMUNICATIONS
OKAY! I'LL DO IT!

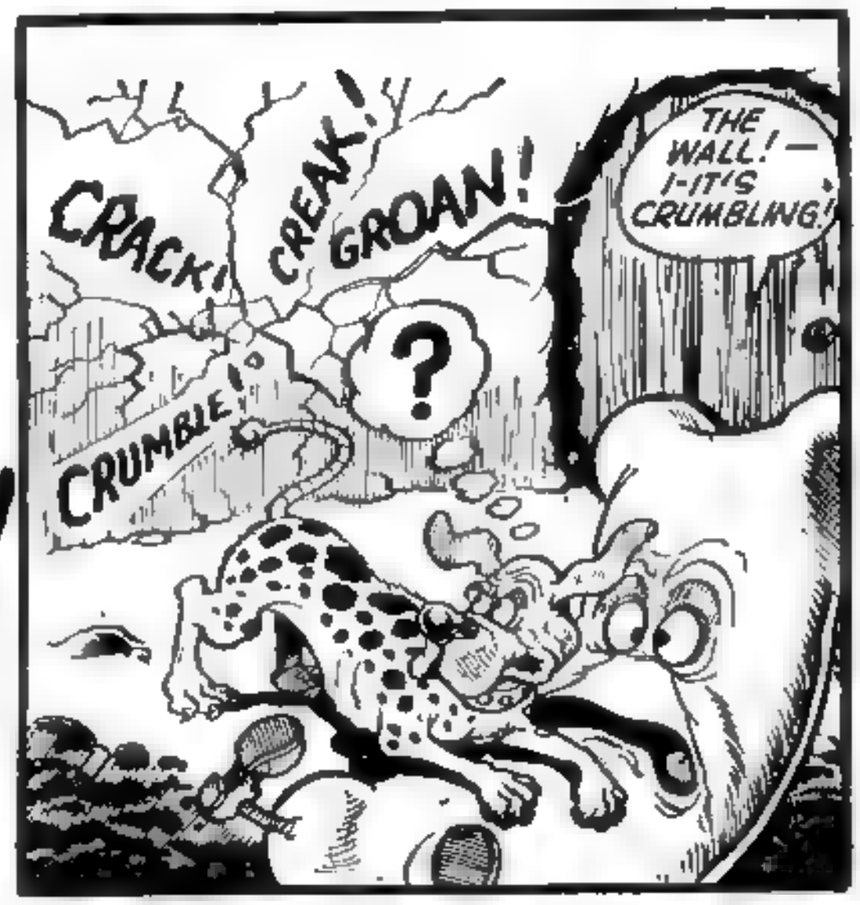
COR! IT'S A LONG WAY FROM FATTY'S TUM TO HIS ELBOW! I'LL HAVE CORNS ON MY BUNIONS BY THE TIME I GET THERE!
M6
TO ELBOW WRIST & HAND DEPTS.

GRR! THAT LITTLE TUM TWERP MUST BE GOING TO FLATTEN BARNEY BLOOD HOUND WITH THAT THING! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!
ELBOW THIS WAY
ELBOW GREASE


HO! HO! THIS BLOB OF ELBOW GREASE WILL SEND HIM OFF COURSE!
AWLK!
WHEE-E-EE
SKID!
SPLUD

HEH! HEH! THAT PILL WILL SHATTER TO BITS ON THE WALL OF FATTY'S ELBOW DEPARTMENT!
HELP! GANG-WAY!-
WHEEE


— I'VE BEEN AMBUSHED BY FRED-THE FROW—
OW! BY DOZE!!
ZOOM
CRASH!
CRACK!
SPLIT


CRACK!
CREAK!
GROAN!
CRUMBLE!
?
THE WALL! — I-IT'S CRUMBLING!

GRRR! IT'S THE WALL THAT HAS SHATTERED — NOT THE PILL!
BLEEH!
EE-YULK!
CRASH!
BONK!
NA-HA-HA! HO! HO! HO! WHAT A LAUGH! — I HAVEN'T GIGGLED SO MUCH IN YEARS!
HEE-HEE! HAW-HAW! HA-HA-HA!

HUH! NOTHING EVER GOES RIGHT FOR ME!
-OR ME!
BLUBBLE! -GASP!
M6

AS FOR FATTY — HE'S ALL HAPPY AGAIN —
GOSH, MA! I THINK THAT PILL DID THE TRICK — THE PAIN'S ALL GONE FROM MY FUNNY BONE NOW!

BUT DOWN BELOW —
HA-HAR-HAR! HEE-HEE! HO-HO-HO!
GRRR! FATTY AN' HIS PERISHIN' PAIN-KILLER! WHY DOES HE HAVE TO BE SUCH A CISSY?!!
Ken Reid

THE FABRIC OF THE FUTURE!

YOUR POW! SHORT STORY

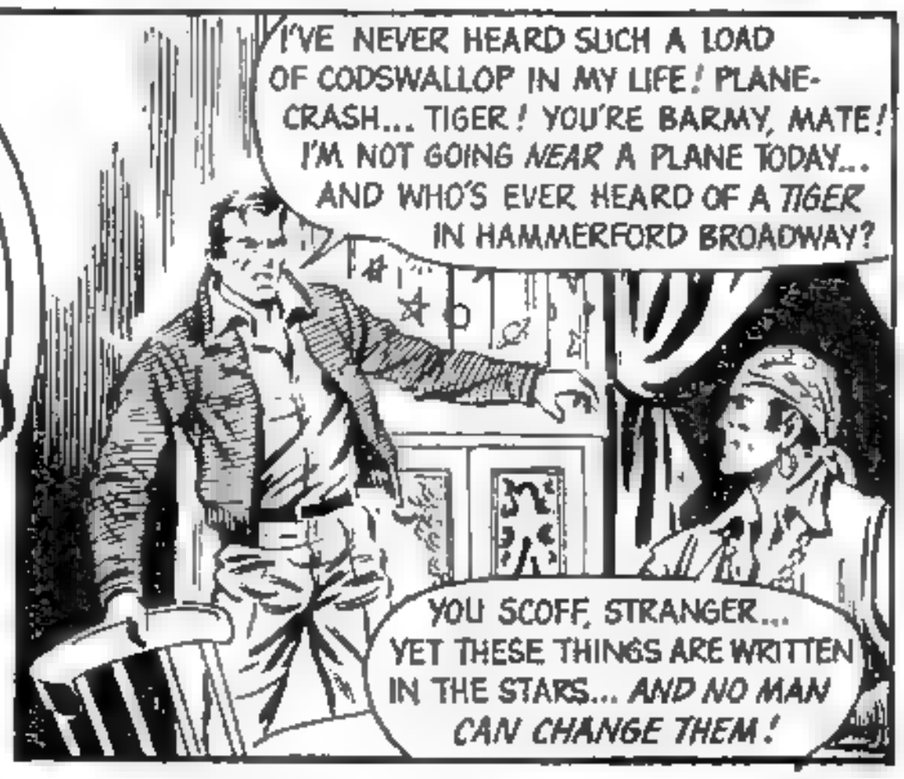
ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY, HE RACES AS FAST AS HIS FEET WILL CARRY HIM, LUNGS BURSTING AS HE GASPS FOR AIR. NAME—**SID SPARK**. OCCUPATION—**PETTY THIEF**. AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME—**ON THE RUN FROM THE POLICE!**

A FAIRGROUND SITE LOOMS IN THE CITY PARK AHEAD. LEGS THROBBING WITH EFFORT, THE RUNNING MAN PLUNGES AMONGST THE JUMBLE OF RIDES AND SIDESHOWS...

BUT THE RELENTLESS MINIONS OF THE LAW ARE STILL FOLLOWING...

THE TENT IS EMPTY... BUT SOON THE REAR CURTAIN LIFTS... AND A COSTUMED MAN ENTERS...

IT COSTS SID SPARK SEVEN SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE TO STAY IN THE TENT PRECIOUS MINUTES LONGER. BUT HE RATES HIS FREEDOM CHEAP AT THE PRICE...



CAUTIOUSLY SID MAKES HIS WAY FROM THE BUSTLING CROWD OF THE FAIRGROUND... THERE IS NO LONGER ANY SIGN OF HIS POLICE PURSUERS...

SUDDENLY... SOMETHING FALLS TO THE PAVEMENT WITH A CRASH... MISSING SID SPARK BY A FRACTION OF AN INCH!

LOOK OUT!

IT'S FALLEN OFF THAT BUILDING!

UGGGGH! WHAT...?!

THE OBJECT WHICH HAS SO NARROWLY MISSED SID IS A HUGE AIRCRAFT MODEL, USED AS A SIGN TO ADVERTISE A TRAVEL AGENCY. AND AS SID REALISES, A COLD WAVE OF TERROR SWEEPS OVER HIM!

ALL RIGHT ARE YOU, CHUM?

COR! YOU NEARLY COPPED A PACKET THERE, MATE!

THAT BLOOMIN' THING COULD 'AVE KILLED SOMEONE!

... A PLANE-CRASH! THAT'S WHAT THE FORTUNE-TELLER BLOKE SAID! AND I'VE NEARLY BEEN FLATTENED BY A MODEL PLANE FALLING OFF A BUILDING!

DAZED AND SHAKEN, SID BLUNDERS OFF.. BUT HE DOES NOT LOOK WHERE HE IS GOING!

AAAGH! WHAT'S THIS... WHITE PAINT? ALL OVER MY HAIR!... AND HE SAID MY HAIR WOULD TURN WHITE WITHIN SECONDS!

'ERE! WATCH IT!

SID IS IN A COMPLETE PANIC! DESPERATELY, BLINDLY, HE RUNS... NO OBJECTIVE, NO AIM, IN VIEW... EXCEPT SOMEHOW TO DODGE THE FATE WHICH SEEMS TO BE OVERTAKING HIM!

THEN, SOMETHING DRIFTS THROUGH THE AIR, BLOCKING SID'S PATH...

GET OUT OF MY WAY... AHHH! I CAN'T GET PAST!

TIGER SAUCE WILL MAKE YOU... GROWL!! WITH DELIGHT

... THE "BATTLE WITH THE TIGER" BEGINS!

... NEXT SECOND, A HEAVY HAND ON HIS SHOULDER...

ALL RIGHT, SPARK! YOU'RE COPPED, CHUMMIE! WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU ALL MORNING!

O.K. I'M NOT GOING TO ARGUE. JUST TAKE ME ALONG TO THE PEACE AND QUIET OF A NICE COMFORTABLE CELL... WHERE NOTHING CAN HAPPEN TO ME!

TIGER SAU

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, BACK IN THE FORTUNE-TELLER'S TENT AT THE FAIRGROUND...

THANKS FOR LOOKING AFTER THE PLACE WHILE I HAD A CUPPA TEA, RED. ANYONE COME IN WHILE I WAS OUT?

YEAH, MICAH. SOME MUG WANTED HIS HAND READ... TIPPED ME THREE HALF-CROWNS, TOO!

... IT GIVES ME A REAL KICK, FOOLING THESE JOKERS THAT I'M THE REAL FORTUNE-TELLER! I TOLD THIS BLOKE THE FIRST THING THAT CAME INTO MY HEAD. WHAT A LOAD OF TRIPE, TOO... YOU'D NEVER BELIEVE IT!

... HE WILL NEVER DREAM THAT HIS ASTONISHING PREDICTIONS DID, IN FACT, COME TRUE! BUT... IS IT POSSIBLE THAT MANY OF US... UNKNOWN... UNSUSPECTED ... HAVE WITHIN US THE AMAZING POWER TO GLIMPSE THE FABRIC OF THE FUTURE?

SINCE POW AND SMASH HAVE JOINED FORCES, TO MAKE ONE GREATER-THAN-EVER COMIC, WE THOUGHT WE'D BETTER INTRODUCE THIS STRIP TO ANY NEW READERS WHO HAVEN'T SEEN IT BEFORE (POOR SOULS)!

ARTISTIC BEARD

BOGGLED MIND.

NERVOUS TWITCH.

THE CLOAK'S CREEPY CRIME-CRUSHING CAPERS ARE WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY MAD MIKE HIGGS OF BIRMINGHAM! EVERYONE IN THE GARRET HAS LONG SINCE GIVEN UP HOPE FOR HIM!

MEET THE STAR OF OUR SIZZLIN' SAGAS, *THE CLOAK* HIMSELF! HE'S THE TOP AGENT OF BRITAIN'S SPECIAL SQUAD AND HIS PERSONAL HEADQUARTERS ARE KNOWN AS THE *SECRET SANCTUM!*

AND HERE, HE IS! TAR-AH ♫!

THESE ARE THE CLOAK'S ASSISTANTS...

THIS ONE WITH THE BALD HEAD, BIG NOSE AND SPECS IS KNOWN AS *MOLE!*

THE SQUIRT WITH THE HAIRY NUT AND THE BIG EYEBALLS IS KNOWN AS *SHORT-STUFF!*

THE HEAD OF THE SPECIAL SQUAD IS KNOWN — ONLY AS *THE CHIEF!*

LADY SHADY IS A FAB FEMALE WHO POPS UP FROM TIME TO TIME IN OUR CRAZY CAPERS! WATCH FOR HER!

THE CLOAK MEETS... DEATHSHEAD

NOW THAT WE'VE SORTED OUT OUR CAST OF KOOKY CHARACTERS, WE THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME TO LEAP HEAD FIRST INTO OUR LATEST LAUGHTER-PACKED CLOAK CASE, *ENTITLED...*

OUR STORY STARTS ON SINISTER SCULL ISLAND, SOMEWHERE IN THE CENTRE OF THE SLIMY SARGASSO SEA...

THE SARGASSO SEA IS KNOWN AS 'THE GRAVE-YARD OF SHIPS'! ONCE CAUGHT IN THE THICK SEAWEED THEY ARE TRAPPED FOR EVER!

BEHIND THESE DOORS LIES THE SUBTERRANEAN SUPREME H.Q. OF THE EVIL G.H.O.U.L. ORGANISATION.

G.H.O.U.L. STANDS FOR THE GENERAL HEADQUARTERS OF UNLAWFUL LAYABOUTS!

NYAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA

ALF WAS HERE

HERE DWELLS THE SUPREME LEADER OF G.H.O.U.L. (WE DAREN'T SHOW YOU WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE! YOU JUST WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT!)

BAN! THE ACCURSED SPECIAL SQUAD IS ALWAYS FOILING THE CRIMINAL PLANS OF MY ORGANISATION! THEIR TOP AGENT, THE CLOAK, SEEMS TO BE THE BIGGEST NUISANCE! I MUST GET RID OF HIM...!

ATTENTION ALL G.H.O.U.L. AGENTS! THIS IS THE SUPREME G.H.O.U.L. I WANT THE CLOAK EXTERMINATED! CALL IN THE CHIEF EXECUTIONER!

GULP! THAT MEANS WE'VE GOT TO GO AND VISIT DEATHSHEAD!

YEAH! HE'S THE CHIEF EXECUTIONER OF G.H.O.U.L!

GULP! IT GIVES ME THE WILLIES JUST TO THINK OF OF HIM! THAT MASK HE WEARS MAKES HIM LOOK GHASTLY!

BY WHOSE COMMAND DO YOU DISTURB THE PEACEFUL SOLITUDE OF THE MIGHTY DEATHSHEAD?

RAP! RAP!

enter!!

GULP! WE'D BETTER GET IT OVER WITH!

ERK! EXCUSE US, MR. DEATHSHEAD, SIR! WE BRING AN ORDER FROM THE SUPREME GHOUL! HE HAS A JOB FOR YOU!

SPEAK UP THEN, MINDLESS CLODS! WHAT DOES THE SUPREME GHOUL WANT ME TO DO?

HE TOLD US TO TELL YOU TO EXTERMINATE THE SPECIAL SQUAD AGENT KNOWN AS *THE CLOAK!*

HEH! HEEEH! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR A CHANCE TO DO THAT FOR A LONG TIME! THE CLOAK WILL SOON BE DEAD! NOW LEAVE ME, STUPID ONES, FOR I HAVE MANY PREPARATIONS TO MAKE!

NOW LET'S NIP OVER TO SPECIAL SQUAD H.Q. WHERE OUR HEROES ARE TAKING IT EASY FOR A CHANGE. . . . .

WELL, WE'VE CERTAINLY HAD IT EASY SINCE OUR LAST CASE!

YOU'RE NOT KIDDING! I WISH IT COULD BE LIKE THIS MORE OFTEN!

I'M GOING FOR A QUIET STROLL TO EXERCISE MY LEGS!

LATER...

NAAH! THERE'S MY UNSUSPECTING VICTIM! THIS IS GOING TO BE EASIER THAN I THOUGHT!

HIGGS! CANDY

I'VE GOT ALL MY MURDEROUS GADGETS STOWED IN THE BACK OF MY HOVERBIKE! I'LL SELECT SOMETHING SIMPLE TO PUT THE CRUNCH ON THE CLOAK!

PERFECT! WHEN THIS LITTLE BEAUTY HAS DONE ITS WORK, THE CLOAK WILL HAVE A SPLIT PERSONALITY! YAK! YAK!

AAAH! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY! I HAVEN'T GOT A CARE IN THE WORLD!

IN JUST A FEW MOMENTS YOU'LL BE OUT OF THIS WORLD -- *FOR GOOD!*

THAT'S A SUSPICIOUS LOOKING SHADOW! WHAT QUEER CREEP COULD BE CASTING IT?

YIPES! NOW I KNOW WHAT CAST THAT QUEER SHADOW, AND I'M NOT VERY HAPPY WITH THE ANSWER!

IN A FEW SECONDS YOU'LL KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE CHOPPED IN HALF! I DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE VERY HAPPY ABOUT THAT, EITHER!

SWISH!

WILL DEATHSHEAD SUCCEED IN GIVING OUR BOY THE CHOP? BETTER HAVE YOUR GLUE READY NEXT WEEK JUST IN CASE THE CLOAK COMES TO A STICKY END. . . !

YES!– IT'S... THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

DAREDEVIL in... THE STILT-MAN STRIKES AGAIN!

HONEST, WE PROMISE YOU, OUR SPELL-BINDING SAGA IS FAR MORE INSPIRING THAN THE SOMEWHAT PEDESTRIAN TITLE WHICH IT BEARS!

IT WAS GREAT, TAKING THE AFTERNOON OFF SO I COULD SKEEDADDLE AROUND TOWN FOR A WHILE!

BUT, I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW LATE IT WAS GETTING!

I'D BETTER RUSH BACK TO THE OFFICE IN CASE FOGGY OR KAREN NEED MATT MURDOCK FOR ANYTHING!

WHEN YOU OR I TRAVEL TO WORK, TIGER, WE'RE APT TO TAKE A BUS, A TAXI, OR A TRAIN! IN FACT, WE MIGHT EVEN WALK! BUT, WHEN YOU'RE A SWING-A-DINGIN' SUPER-HERO LIKE OL' DD--WELL, JUST WATCH--

Reg. T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group 1966

ROMPIN' AROUND TOWN IN A COSTUME MAY NOT BE THE SAFEST JOB OF ALL--

BUT, IT HAS ITS GOOD POINTS--

AT LEAST, I DON'T HAVE TO SQUANDER MY HARD-EARNED SHEKELS ON CAB FARE!

--OR WORRY ABOUT GETTING CAUGHT IN TRAFFIC JAMS!

IN THIS TOWN, YOU CAN'T TURN AROUND WITHOUT TRIPPING OVER ONE OF 'EM!

WHAT IN THE NAME OF--?!!

OH! ANOTHER SUPER-HERO!

NO PARKING

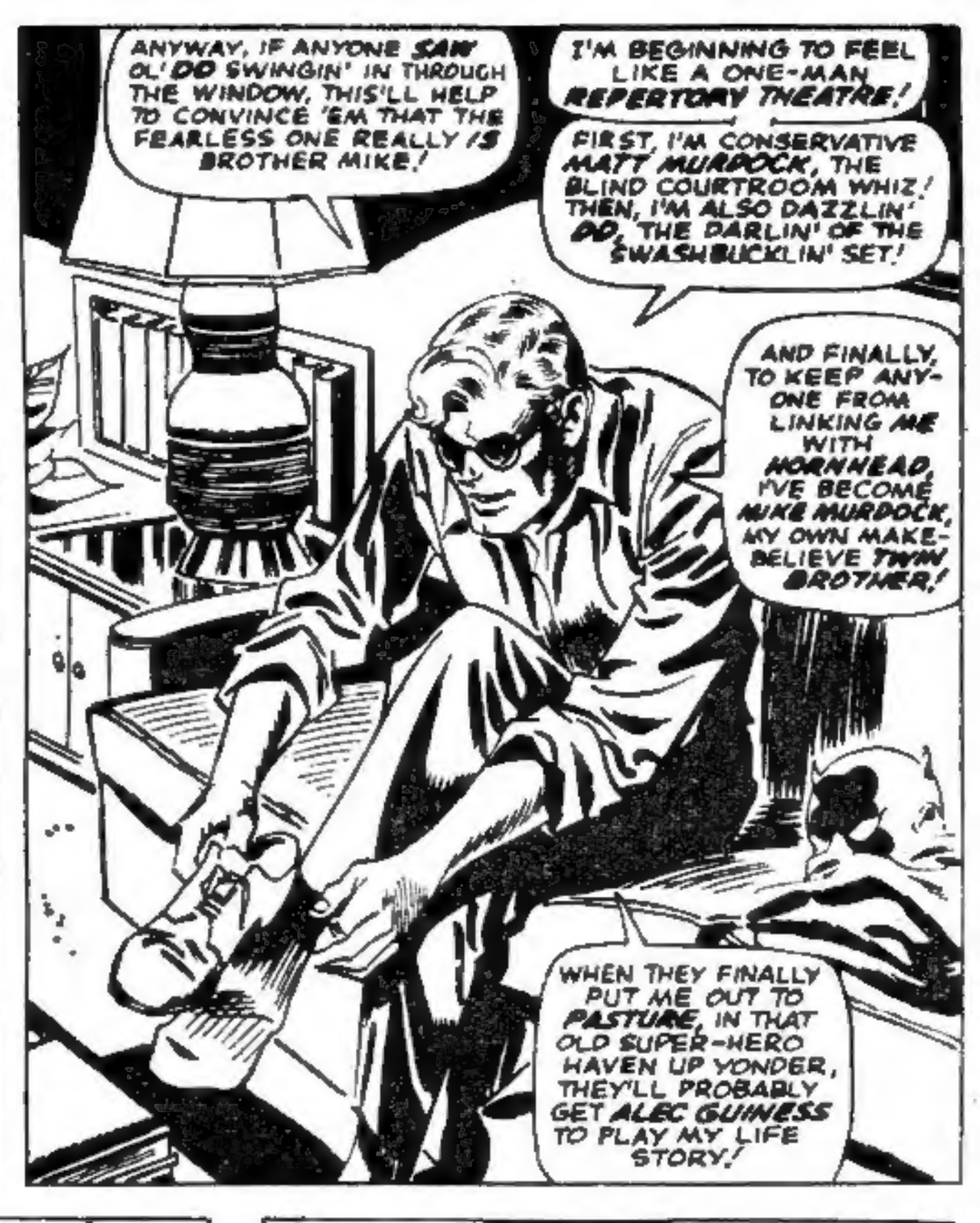
WELL, THIS IS IT!

THONK

I'LL JUST BOUNCE OFF THE NEAREST TRUCK TOP--ONTO THE BALCONY ABOVE --THEN, A FEW QUICK SOMERSAULTS UPWARD--

"AND IT'S GOT WAITING FOR THAT OLD LIFT BEAT A MILE!
ALTHOUGH IF I EVER FORGET TO LEAVE THIS WINDOW OPEN-- HOOO BOY!

I'D BETTER CHANGE TO MATT MURDOCK FAST, AND THEN-- NO!
JUST FOR KICKS, I'LL BECOME MATTHEW'S FRANTIC, FAST-TALKIN' TWIN BROTHER!
I'M BEGINNING TO ENJOY THE ROLE OF MADCAP MICHAEL MURDOCK!
I GUESS I'M REALLY AS BIG A HAM AS "ME" IS!


ANYWAY, IF ANYONE SAW OL' DO SWINGIN' IN THROUGH THE WINDOW, THIS'LL HELP TO CONVINCE 'EM THAT THE FEARLESS ONE REALLY IS BROTHER MIKE!
I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL LIKE A ONE-MAN REPERTORY THEATRE!
FIRST, I'M CONSERVATIVE MATT MURDOCK, THE BLIND COURTROOM WHIZ! THEN, I'M ALSO DAZZLIN' DO, THE DARLIN' OF THE SWASHBUCKLIN' SET!
AND FINALLY, TO KEEP ANYONE FROM LINKING ME WITH HORNHEAD, I'VE BECOME MIKE MURDOCK, MY OWN MAKE-BELIEVE TWIN BROTHER!
WHEN THEY FINALLY PUT ME OUT TO PASTURE, IN THAT OLD SUPER-HERO HAVEN UP YONDER, THEY'LL PROBABLY GET ALEC GUINESS TO PLAY MY LIFE STORY!

LET'S SEE NOW--I'LL JUST MUSS UP THE MOP, TO GIVE MYSELF THAT CAREFREE TOUSLED LOOK!
A FELLA LIKE MIKE WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT DEAD WITH A SIMPLE THING LIKE A HAIR COMB!

AND, I'LL HAVE TO GIVE MY SPECS A COFFEE BREAK FOR A WHILE, AS I COVER MY SIGHTLESS EYES IN A MORE COLOURFUL WAY--
IF THE ATTORNEY-AT-LAW BUSINESS EVER GETS SLOW, I MIGHT JUST DECIDE TO OPEN A SCHOOL OF METHOD ACTING!

YESSIR! STANISLAVSKY HAD NOTHING ON ME!
NOW, ALL I'VE GOTTA DO IS CHANGE MY PERSONALITY!!

IT'S FUNNY--I EVEN FEEL LIKE A DIFFERENT GUY WHEN I "BECOME" MIKE MURDOCK!
MAYBE I SHOULD GIVE UP THE COSTUMED CAVORTER JAZZ AND GET INTO SHOW BIZ!
WHO KNOWS? THEY MIGHT BE LOOKING FOR ANOTHER CARY GRANT OUT IN CELLULOID CITY!
I CAN JUST SEE MYSELF NOW--
"DON'T PUT YOUR ARMS AROUND ME, SOPHIA BABY! STOP KISSIN' ME, GINA DOLL--!"
"YOU'RE TICKLIN' THE CLEFT IN MY CHIN!"

UH OH! I HEAR FOGGY AND KAREN PASSING THE DOOR! THEY'RE JUST LEAVING!
WELL, WE'LL SEE IF OL' MIKE CAN DREAM UP SOME WONDROUS WAY TO STOP 'EM!
AFTER ALL-- IF I WENT TO ALL THIS TROUBLE TO BECOME MY OWN TWIN BROTHER, SOMEONE MIGHT AS WELL CATCH THE ACT!

KAREN! DO YOU HEAR SINGING-- COMING FROM MATT'S OFFICE!
THERE IT IS AGAIN! SOUNDS LIKE THAT IDIOT TWIN BROTHER OF HIS!
FOGGY! HOW CAN YOU CALL THAT FABULOUS DAREDEVIL AN IDIOT?
EASY AS PIE, HONEY!
HE MAY BE A LIVING DOLL TO YOU--
BUT HE'S A LOUD-MOUTHED, SWELL-HEADED SHOWOFF TO ME!

COME IN--COME IN-- WHOOOOOOEVER YOU ARE--!
FOGGY! IT IS MIKE MURDOCK!!
I'M ALL SNOOK-UP ABOUT THE WHOLE THING!
STICKS 'N STONES'LL BREAK MY BONES --BUT WOIIIIIIDS'LL NEVER HOYYYYT ME!

AHH, A MAIDEN FAIR DOTH ENTER THE OFFICE OF BROTHER MATTHEW!
BUT, WHO IS THAT STANDING AT HER SIDE? HE FROWNS--HE SCOWLS--HE MUMBLES UNDER HIS BREATH!!
'TIS CERTAIN HE IS NO MEMBER OF THE MIKE MURDOCK FAN CLUB!
BUT, LET ME WARN YOU, MY CHUBBY FRIEND--

MMMMM--YOU DIRTY RAT--MIKE MURDOCK IS MY FRIEND--SO TREAT 'IM NICE--
KAREN--YOU'D BETTER NOTIFY THE FUNNY FARM--HE'S READY FOR A PADDED CELL!
OH, FOGGY! DON'T BE SILLY! CAN'T YOU TELL HE'S IMITATING JAMES CAGNEY?!!

YOU RECOGNIZED IT!! KAREN BABY--YOU'RE THE GREATEST!
IF YOU COULD ONLY SWING 'ROUND THE ROOFTOPS ON A BILLY-CLUB CABLE, YOU'D BE PERFECT!
NO WONDER MATT NEVER WANTED TO TELL US ABOUT HIM--!
HE'S A FEARLESS, FULL-TIME NUT!
MIKE MURDOCK--TELL ME SOMETHING--AREN'T YOU EVER SERIOUS?

SURE I AM--
C'MON, LET'S GET MARRIED!
SORRY, I CAN'T! I'VE A HAIRDRESSER APPOINTMENT!
KAREN, WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE BEFORE YOU GET AS WHACKY AS ME!
SEE? WHEN I'M SERIOUS, NO ONE BELIEVES ME!
WE CAN'T AFFORD TO BE OUT OF OUR TREE BY TOMORROW WHEN COURT CONVENES FOR THE LEAPFROG'S* ARRAIGNMENT!
HOW CAN A MAN LIKE MATT HAVE A TWIN BROTHER WHO'S A REAL MENTAL CASE?!!
*THE LEAPFROG IS THE BADDIE WHOM DD DELIVERED TO THE LAW LAST ISH--AS IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW!--

HEY--HOLD IT, GROUP!
IF YOU'RE GONNA BE IN COURT TOMORROW, SAVE A SEAT FOR ME! I WANNA WATCH YOU LEGAL EAGLES IN ACTION!
AFTER ALL--DON'T FORGET WHO IT WAS WHO OUT-LEAPED THE LEAPFROG!
HE'S RIGHT, FOGGY! HE DESERVES A SEAT AT THE TRIAL!
SURE! SURE! SO DOES PERRY MASON!
LET'S GO!

OH! MR. FARNUM--OUR BUILDING MANAGER!
AFRAID WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME NOW, FARNUM! WE'RE JUST LEAVING FOR THE EVENING!
I WON'T DELAY YOU, NELSON! I WAS JUST LEAVING MYSELF AND NOTICED THAT YOUR LIGHT WAS STILL ON!
WERE YOU--COMING IN--TO SEE US?
I READ IN THE PAPER THAT YOU'RE DEFENDING THAT LEAPFROG CHARACTER!
THAT'S RIGHT! THE ARRAIGNMENT IS TOMORROW MORNING!

YOU KNOW, THIS IS A RESPECTABLE OFFICE BUILDING!
I'M NOT VERY HAPPY ABOUT HAVING TENANTS WHO SEEM TO BE INVOLVED WITH SOME OF THE MOST DESPICABLE CRIMINALS OF ALL!
NOW, I'M A BROAD-MINDED MAN, BUT MUST YOU DEFEND SUCH CUT-THROATS AND KNAVES?

PERSONALLY, I'M PARTIAL TO CORPORATION LAW, FARNUM--BUT, SINCE YOU ASK'ED ME--
IN THIS NATION, EVERY MAN IS PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY--
AND, ANYONE WHO COMES TO TRIAL IS ENTITLED TO THE BEST DEFENCE AVAILABLE--WHICH IS WHAT NELSON AND MURDOCK WILL SEE THAT HE GETS!
AND NOW--IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US--!

ATTA BOY, CHUBBINS! YOU'RE NOT AS SQUARE AS YOU LOOK!
YOU MAY HAVE TALKED YOURSELF OUT OF YOUR LEASE--BUT OL' MIKE'S PROUD OF YA!
WHAP
WELL, SEE YOU IN COURT TOMORROW, DAD!
I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY THAT!

THEN, BRIGHT AND EARLY THE NEXT MORNING--

TOO BAD MATT COULDN'T MAKE IT BECAUSE I'M HERE!

OH BRO-THER! I'M ACTUALLY BEGINNING TO REALLY FEEL LIKE TWO SEPARATE PEOPLE!

COURT HOUSE

I MAY BE READY FOR THAT FUNNY FARM SOONER THAN FOGGY THINKS!

WHILE INSIDE, THE CROWDED CORRIDORS ARE RIFE WITH RUMOUR AND SPECULATION--

HOW COME NELSON IS DEFENDING THE LEAP-FROG--INSTEAD OF MATT MURDOCK?

MISTER, MY JOB IS TO GUARD THIS DOOR! ONE LAWYER'S THE SAME AS ANOTHER TO ME!

MAYBE NELSON'S TIRED OF MURDOCK ALWAYS GRABBIN' THE SPOT-LIGHT?

I WONDER WHAT'S GOIN' ON IN THERE NOW?

AND, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PANELLED OAK DOOR--

THIS IS FOR THE BIRDS! A GUY COULD FALL ASLEEP IN HERE--

I SUPPOSE THE ROUTINE PROCESS OF COURTROOM PROCEDURE WOULD SEEM DULL--TO A MAN LIKE YOU, MIKE--!

ALTHOUGH YOUR BROTHER, MATT, WOULD BE IN HIS ELEMENT HERE!

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY HE ASKED FOGGY TO MAKE THE OPENING PRESENTATION?

POOR FOGGY WOULD RATHER SINK HIS TEETH INTO A JUICY CORPORATION TAX CASE ANY DAY!

AND NOW--IF IT PLEASE THE COURT --I SUBMIT EXHIBIT "A"--

--THE ELECTRONICALLY-ACTIVATED SPRING-SOLED SHOES WHICH ENABLED THE LEAP-FROG TO EXECUTE HIS DAZZLING HIGH-JUMPS!

I ASK THE DEFENDANT TO STUDY THIS SHOE! IS IT NOT THE SAME ONE YOU WORE WHEN COMMITTING YOUR CRIMES?

NAN! I NEVER EVEN SAW IT BEFORE!

BUT, IT WAS TAKEN FROM YOUR OWN FOOT!

I'M AS INNOCENT AS A NEW-BORN BABE! I COULDN'T BE THE LEAP-FROG! I'M SCARED OF HEIGHTS!

I EVEN GET AIRSICK STANDIN' ON A THICK RUG!

SAY, DOLL--WHY DOESN'T THE D.A. JUST MEASURE HIS HOOF 'N SEE IF IT'S THE SAME SIZE?--IF IT WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR CINDERELLA--

WOULD YOU MIND KEEPING YOUR VOICE DOWN, YOUNG MAN? OTHERS WOULD LIKE TO HEAR THE PROCEEDINGS!

COOL IT, POPS! I'LL CLUE YOU IN AS WE GO ALONG!

MIKE! YOU'VE GOT TO BE QUIET --OR THE USHER WILL EVICT YOU! THIS IS A COURTROOM!

NO ONE SHOVES YOURS TRULY AROUND, BABY! THE SUPER-HERO UNION'LL PICKET THE JOINT!

CAN'TCHA SEE THOSE SHOES WOULD NEVER FIT ME? THEY'RE MUCH TOO SMALL!

WITH THE COURT'S PERMISSION, THERE'S ONE WAY TO DISPROVE THAT--!

ALL RIGHT, LEMME HAVE 'EM! I'LL SHOW YOU!

MAN! WHAT A PAIR OF CLOD-HOPPERS THESE ARE--!

HEY! HOLD IT! GRAB THOSE SHOES!! WHAT IF HE--?

OKAY--YOU WIN YOUR CASE! YOU PROVED I AM THE LEAP-FROG!!

BUT, NOW THAT I'VE GOT MY SPRING-SHOES AGAIN--LET'S SEE WHAT GOOD IT DOES YOU!

NEXT WEEK--D-D IN ACTION AGAIN!

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BAD PENNY

TEE-HEE-HEE! THIS PENNY IS GOIN' TO BE WORTH **QUIDS** THIS WEEK!

I'VE MADE GALLONS OF SUN LOTION — AN' I SHOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE SELLING IT ON A DAY LIKE THIS!

BY GOSH! IT'S A REAL SCORCHER TODAY! TOO HOT TO WEAR A SUIT!

TRY SOME OF PENNY'S PATENT LOTION, SIR. ONLY TWO-BOB A GALLON — SAMPLES FREE!

EEK! — IT'S BURNING!

OH, GOSH! I MUST'VE PUT TOO MUCH MUSTARD IN IT! I'LL TRY AGAIN!

LATER —

I'VE MADE SOME MORE — SO HERE WE GO AGAIN!

OH, **NO**! — IT'S STARTING TO RAIN!

WELL, AT LEAST IT'S NOT TURNIN' HIM ALL RED LIKE IT DID THE OTHER BLOKE!

BZZZZZZ

? ?

HELP! THEY'RE AFTER ME!!

MUST MAKE A NOTE NOT TO USE SO MUCH **HONEY** IN THE NEXT LOT!

HULLO, BLONDIE — YOU'LL NEVER WIN A BEAUTY CONTEST WIV' WHITEWASH FOR SKIN — YOU NEED A TAN...

UH?

EEK!

ERK! — I MUST'VE PUT TOO MUCH **INK** IN THIS LOT!!

HEH! HEH! IT'S MY LUCKY DAY, AFTER ALL! I SOLD IT ALL TO THAT OL' FARMER FOR FERTILIZER!

OI'VE A GOOD NOSE FOR FERTILISER, OI HAVE — THAT STUFF O' PENNY'S SMELLED SO STRONG IT **HAD** TO WORK!

ER, PENNY — I WANT A WORD WITH YOU!

DAD!

I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN EXPERIMENTING WITH TANNING STUFF —

THESE PEOPLE HAVE CALLED TO SHOW YOU THEIR **TANNING** STUFF —

— A SLIPPER

A SLAPPER —

— AND A NICE, HARD BROLLY!

WAAH! CHEATS!

IT'S ALL GUARANTEED TO MAKE YOU CHANGE COLOUR — FAST! HO! HO! HO!